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DAILY REPORT CONTENTS

Soviet Union

Vol III No 045 *5 March 1980*

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

DISARMAMENT/SALT/MBFR

World Press Comment on USSR Tank Units Pullout [IZVESTIYA 29 Feb] AA 1

COMMUNISTS RELATIONS

Socialism's Foreign Policy 'Obstacle to Adventurists' [NOVYE VREMYA No 8] BB 1
PRAVDA Ridicules Paris Paper's View of CEMA 'Crisis' [Bogomolov, 21 Feb] BB 2
Supreme Soviet Presidium Ratifies CEMA Charter Amendment [IZVESTIYA 21 Feb] BB 2

WORLD & REGIONAL ISSUES

PRAVDA Reviews U.S. Aggressive Policy, European Response [Korionov, 2 Mar] CC 1

UNITED STATES & CANADA

Arbatov Assesses Consequences for Peace of Current Policy [PRAVDA 3 Mar] A 1
Sobelev, Sokolov Chide U.S. 'Confusion' on UN Vote A 6
U.S. 'Doing Everything' To Obstruct Afghan Pullout [ZA RUBEZHOM No 10] A 6
Failure of Economic Embargo Against USSR Predicted [Krasnov in PRAVDA 29 Feb] A 8
Barsukov on Outcome of New Hampshire Primaries [IZVESTIYA 29 Feb] A 10
PRAVDA on Carter Administration's Social Programs [Linnik 21 Feb] A 11

CHINA

CCP Plenum Confirms Power Struggle Continues 3 1

NORTHEAST ASIA

Comments on Soviet-Korean Cooperation Plan [(Daidbekov)] C 1
Polyanskiy Talks to Press on Afghanistan, Siberian Project [KYODO] C 2
Speech by Head of Japan Defense Agency Assailed C 2
Vladimir Svetov: Japanese Military Training Ominous C 3
Variations to Dolgikh Speech on Afghanistan at JCP Congress C 4
CPSU's Dolgikh Returns from JCP Congress C 5

SOUTH ASIA

Neutrality Proposal 'Aimed at Overthrowing' Afghan Government [Seyful-Mulyukov] D 1
Oparin Reports Afghan 'Patriots' Rebuffing 'Provocations' [SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 1 Mar] D 1
Correspondents Comment on Afghan Visit, U.S. Interference [Kassis, Nakoryakov] D 3
Afghan Foreign Ministry Issues Statements on Violations of Airspace D 8
Afghan Official Barialay Scores 'Imperialist Powers' [Pichugin] D 8
Afghan Neutralization 'Political Decoration' Masking Plot [Polyanov in SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 2 Mar] D 9
Nepesov Comments on Anniversary of USSR-Afghan Relations [SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA 28 Feb] D 10
Palestinian Delegation Visits Afghanistan, Supports Revolution D 12
Pakistan's Words, Actions Seen at 'Variance' D 13
Shikhmuradov Vilifies Pakistani President, Sees U.S. Support [KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 26 Feb] D 13
PRAVDA Reports on Highlights of Arkhipov India Tour [29 Feb] D 15
    Address to Delhi Rally [29 Feb] D 15
    Return to Moscow [2 Mar] D 16
Indian-Soviet Protocol Signed on Soviet Technical Aid D 17
Indira Gandhi Comments on Soviet Role in Afghanistan D 17
India's Rao Ends Talks With Algerian Counterpart [Bulantsev] D 18

EASTERN EUROPE

Yugoslav Journals Echo Western Propaganda on Afghanistan [Kornilov] F 1
Military Leaders Attend Army Day Fete at GDR Embassy [KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 1 Mar] F 1
Rashidov Confers with Husak During Tashkent Stopover [PRAVDA VOSTOKA 13 Feb] F 2

WESTERN EUROPE

French, British Aides Begin Moscow Talks on Afghanistan [Beeston in London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH 4 Mar] G 1
    Paris Report G 1
Oslo Succumbs to NATO Pressure on Maneuvers, Arms Dumps [Ponomarev in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 28 Feb] G 1
Portuguese Socialist Tactics Threaten To Split Left [Kabarov] G 3
Portuguese Communists Condemn Sa Carneiro Government G 4
Ponomarev, Zagladin Hold Talks with Swiss Leaders G 4
Finnish Parliamentarians Visit Karelian Construction Sites [PRAVDA 21 Feb] G 5
Gromyko Exchanges Cables with Icelandic Foreign Minister G 5

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

Further Reportage on UN Commission in Iran H 1
    Meeting With Hostages H 1
    Continuation of Investigations [Akhmedzyanov in IZVESTIYA 1 Mar] H 1
Iranians Mark Anniversary of Mossadeq's Death H 1

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

Furthur Comment on Rhodesian Election Results J 1
  Setback for British Diplomacy [Belyanskiy] J 1
  Tasks of New Government [Ptashnikov, Gubernatorov] J 1
  Mugabe-Nkomo Coalition Possible [Kulik] J 2

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

POLITICAL & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS .

Brezhnev, Kuznetsov Speak at Supreme Soviet Presidium R 1
RSFSR Supreme Soviet To Convene 25 March R 4
Kazakh Supreme Soviet Session Convened for 27 March R 4
New Deputy Chairman Council of Ministers for Lithuania [SOVETSKAYA LITVA 20 Feb] R 4
New Azerbaijan Education Minister Appointed [BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY 14 Feb] R 5
Georgian Raykom Replaces Reassigned First Secretary [ZARYA VOSTOKA 23 Feb] R 5
Kuznetsov in Honor Guard for 14 Feb Malik Funeral [PRAVDA 15 Feb] R 5
Andrey Sakharov Defends Fellow Dissident Kopelev [Bonn DIE WELT 4 Mar] R 6
Fewer Jewish, German Emigrants Permitted to Leave [Munich SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG 4 Mar] R 6

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

USSR State Bank Alters 17 Exchange Rates S 1
Brezhnev Greetings to Fertilizer Complex Personnel [PRAVDA 15 Feb] S 1
Kirilenko Visits M.I. Kalinin Polytechnic Institute [LENINGRADSKAYA PRAVDA 20 Feb] S 2
Solomentsev Delivers Report to Workers' Conference S 2

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

Radio Reports Agricultural Developments 4 March T 1
Brezhnev Greets Tashkent Livestock Workers [PRAVDA 22 Feb] T 1

MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS

Further Reportage on 62d Anniversary of Army, Navy V 1
  Editorial: 'Powerful Combat Monolith' [KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 22 Feb] V 1
  Rodin: Afghanistan, 'International Mission' [TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA 23 Feb] V 2
  Gorchakov: 'Bulwark of Peace' [SOVETSKAYA KIRGIZIYA 23 Feb] V 3
  Saltykov: Relaxing International Tension [ZARYA VOSTOKA 23 Feb] V 4
  Maksimov: 'Noble International Mission' [PRAVDA VOSTOKA 21 Feb] V 5
  Yepishev: 'Just Wars' [KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 22 Feb] V 7

WORLD PRESS COMMENT ON USSR TANK UNITS PULLOUT

LD050925 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 29 Feb Morning Edition p 4 LD

[TASS report: "An Important Positive Step"]

[Text] The report that the Soviet Union has begun withdrawing another group of Soviet tank troop units from the territory of the GDR has evoked a wide response in the world. This measure is seen as an important step in the Soviet Union's unilateral reduction of the number of its troops in central Europe.

Prague--In the present unsettled atmosphere, the newspaper RUDE PRAVO writes, this measure shows once more the consistency with which the USSR keeps its promises. Not even the efforts of certain Western circles to return the world to the time of the cold war can turn it from the path of peace. This position differs radically from the military hysteria being whipped up in the United States by the White House, to which many U.S. citizens have fallen victim.

The Soviet Union's action, the newspaper continues, is a positive and important step which is helping to reduce tension in the military sphere. The withdrawal of further units from the GDR is convincing new evidence of the serious attitude to the commitments the USSR undertook before the world public in the sphere of detente.

The road to military detente is still open. All that is needed now is goodwill on the part of the West.

Paris--Despite the current tension in international relations, the Soviet Union is consistently implementing its planned measures to reduce the danger of war in Europe the newspaper L'HUMANITE writes in a report on the withdrawal of more Soviet military tank units and tanks from the GDR. The newspaper reminds readers that the first group of Soviet servicemen was withdrawn from the GDR in December last year. The firm stance of the USSR to go through with its decision to unilaterally reduce the number of Soviet troops in central Europe is evidence of its confidence in the possibility of avoiding a worsening in the situation in the region. Moscow resolutely rejects the escalation of the arms race and the policy of military blackmail which the United States is trying to foist onto the whole world, L'HUMANITE stresses.

Rome--Commenting on the withdrawal of Soviet tank units, the newspaper L'UNITA stresses that this is now the second Soviet troop formation to be withdrawn from the GDR in the last 3 months. The Soviet Union is thus trying to show the West what concrete action it is taking to promote detente.

Delhi--In a report from Berlin the newspaper THE PATRIOT'S correspondent writes that "despite the Carter administration's cold war policy and the hostile propaganda campaign it has mounted against Afghanistan, which has led to a worsening of the international situation, the Soviet Union remains true to its word and is sticking firmly to its policy of detente and arms reduction." The struggle to firmly establish and deepen the process of relaxing tension and to limit and reduce the arms race is the Soviet Union's principled course, general secretary of the all-India organization for peace and solidarity (O.P. Palival) said. The latest withdrawal of Soviet military contingents from the GDR is evidence of precisely this. In contrast to the United States and their allies in the aggressive North Atlantic NATO bloc, the USSR invariably fulfills the peace commitments it has undertaken and promotes the spread of the relaxation of international detente, chairman of the all-India peasant union (Z.A. Akhmed) stated here. The withdrawal of another group of Soviet troops from central Europe, (Z.A. Akhmed) stressed, once again exposes the West's mendacious propaganda ballyhoo about a "Soviet military threat."

SOCIALISM'S FOREIGN POLICY 'OBSTACLE TO ADVENTURISTS'

LD031013 Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 8, 22 Feb 80 p 1 LD

[Editorial: "A Firm and Reasonable Stance"]

[Text] There are different kinds of escalation: military, political, psychological. It is not so long since the world witnessed military escalation: The American administration systematically and deliberately stepped up aggressive actions against Socialist Vietnam. The war began with a small matter--the pre-fabricated Gulf of Tonkin incident--and ended in the brutal annihilation of the peaceful population and ruthless bombings of cities and villages. It now transpires that mankind was then only a step away from the Pentagon plunging it into thermonuclear catastrophe.

Today Washington is practicing political and psychological escalation. Day in, day out new twists are added to the spiral of anti-Soviet hysteria designed to stupefy and confuse the consumer of the Western mass media's output. At the same time the Pentagon is preparing various plans for switching to military escalation.

However, notwithstanding all the difference between the situation then and the situation now, there is a common feature. What prevented Washington from crossing the dangerous line in Vietnam and what is stabilizing the critical situation today? The answer to this question brings us to an understanding of the truly decisive role played in the modern world by the socialist community and its foreign policy.

It was precisely the socialist countries' might and confidence in the justice of their cause that helped upset the American calculations in Southeast Asia. It is now hard even to imagine what would have been the consequences of the implementation of these calculations. The whole region would have been transformed into a unified American-Chinese springboard from which the way would have been clear for new adventures.

We can continue: What situation would the world find itself in today if it were completely in the power of the political and psychological escalation of international tension now emanating from Washington? As a matter of fact, history has already provided the answer: The escalation of the 1938-1939 Hitlerite aggression was not stopped because at that time socialist foreign policy was operating in virtual isolation. If everything was the way it used to be--the way it was in the thirties--what would prevent reaction from settling scores with the Iranian revolution or the April revolution in Afghanistan during the eighties?

The socialist countries' foreign policy is not just an obstacle to adventurists. It persistently seeks constructive opportunities for strengthening international security. Of course, we certainly do not think that peace-loving moves in foreign policy are the exclusive privilege of socialism. The events of recent decades have proved that socialist diplomacy reacts sensitively to all realistic trends in the West. The success of the all-European conference in Helsinki, and the success of the SALT I treaty and many other agreements are evidence of this. However, things are not all that easy for realists in the West in the atmosphere of political hysteria currently fueled by Washington. What is particularly needed in this atmosphere is a point around which all healthy and sensible trends can crystallize.

In his speech in Warsaw M.A. Suslov noted with complete justification: "We can say with pride that in the most disturbing days for mankind, when the international horizon has been covered in stormclouds, our socialist community's firm and reasonable stance has helped stop recklessness and has opened up the prospect of a normalization of the situation." This role of the socialist community's is especially valuable today and it is being manifested in full measure. There, in Warsaw, another important new initiative was launched: All the states that participated in the all-European conference were invited to the Polish capital to hold a conference on military detente and disarmament.

At the present troubled time the socialist countries are making every effort to cool the imperialists' hot heads. The many foreign visits by representatives of the socialist countries help this. To preserve and develop detente--that is the leitmotiv of the speeches by the Soviet Union's leaders who are currently addressing voters. The principled and resolute dedication of the socialist countries' coordinated policy to the ideals of world peace helps to strengthen detente as the leading trend in modern development.

"Magnetic storms" caused by detente's enemies are now raging in the world. The aim of those who are implanting tension is to deflect mankind from the correct course, but socialist diplomacy has in its hands a reliable compass whose needle is invariably oriented toward the main reference point--peace and the peoples' security.

PRAVDA RIDICULES PARIS PAPER'S VIEW OF CEMA 'CRISIS'

LD291001 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Feb 80 p 5 LD

[P. Bogomolov "Rejoinder": "LE MONDE Makes a Discovery..."]

[Text] "The End of a Dogma"--This is the pretentious headline under which the Paris newspaper LE MONDE publishes an extensive commentary on the CEMA countries' economy. What is it about? The fact that the "East European countries belonging to the Soviet bloc are being shaken by an unparalleled crisis"(!) There it is, no more, no less! What is the evidence?

LE MONDE reports, wide-eyed: In accordance with the specific situation, each CEMA country uses its own methods in the course of socialist building. "The fact," the paper exclaims as if discovering something for the first time, "that the USSR's CEMA allies come to different decisions indicates a lot of uncertainty among them. Well, after this, how can we fail to be surprised at the ignorance of LE MONDE, which passes off as evidence of "crisis" the long-known fact that it is essential to apply the natural laws of building a new society creatively, taking into account each country's national features!

Moreover LE MONDE has not only displayed its ignorance. By seeking out nonexistent "contradictions" in the diary of the CEMA countries' economic life, reactionary propaganda has long tried to drive a wedge between socialist community states. But nowadays it is clear to all that the device is a cheap one! So on this occasion LE MONDE's commentary has merely shown that the paper draws conclusions guided not by reality but by its own desires.

SUPREME SOVIET PRESIDIUM RATIFIES CEMA CHARTER AMENDMENT

LD281101 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Feb 80 Morning Editon p 4 LD

[TASS report: "Protocol Ratified"]

[Text] By a decree dated 19 February 1980 the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has ratified the protocol on amending the CEMA Charter signed on behalf of the USSR Government in Moscow on 28 June 1979.

PRAVDA REVIEWS U.S. AGGRESSIVE POLICY, EUROPEAN RESPONSE

LD031219 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 Mar 80 p 4 LD

[Vitaliy Korionov "International Review"]

[Text] Guarantee of a Peaceful future

The tremendous response aroused in the world by the speech by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, at his meeting with voters in Moscow indicates that the international public regards that speech as one of the most important events of our time. It is 10 days since the speech was delivered, but the stream of responses has not died down. This is an indication of the awareness on the part of the world's peoples that the roads of detente pass first of all through Moscow.

If we want to prevent mankind from returning to the "position of strength" policy, every word in L.I. Brezhnev's speech must be weighed on the diplomatic scales--that is how West Germany's STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG expressed the attitude toward the Soviet leader's speech of even those circles which cannot be suspected of a sympathetic attitude toward communists.

There is no lack of disturbing features in the development of the world today. The shadow of new American nuclear missiles hangs over Europe. The cloud created by the armored American armada has darkened the Near East horizon. The newspapers cannot keep a abreast of the increase in U.S. military expenditure. Sinister arrows drawn by the "top brass" in Pentagon cut through the map of the world from the Caribbean to the Sea of Japan and from Pakistan to southern Africa.

Into this disturbed atmosphere come words full of faith in the future from the Kremlin: "Comrades, we have a huge and beautiful country. We are doing tremendous deeds. Today, on the threshold of the eighties, when preparations for the 26th party congress are being launched, we have every reason to look to the future with tranquility and confidence. As before, our course is a course of peaceful creation, further transformation of the country's boundless expanses and adding to the Soviet people's material and spiritual riches. Nobody will deflect us from that course!"

Soviet people's historical optimism is based on the scientific analysis of our system's real potentials and an accurate assessment of the correlation of forces in the world arena.

Nearly a year of shock labor still remains before the end of the 10th 5-Year Plan, but it is already obvious that over those 5 years a volume of fixed production capital equivalent to that possessed by the USSR in the late sixties will have been commissioned.

During the 10th 5-Year Plan more than R1.6 trillion will have been channeled into day-to-day consumption by the population and the construction of housing and projects in health care, education, culture and other sectors in the nonproduction sphere--that is, as much as in the 7th and 8th 5-year plans put together.

The ideological, political and social unity of Soviet society and the cohesion of the nations and nationalities in our multination country are strengthening from year to year. The effective force of the unique asset of socialism was again confirmed by the recently published results of the elections held last Sunday. Many millions of voters voted unanimously for the Leninist party's policy.

How strikingly the situation in capitalist society differs from this!

A "crisis of the system"--these words appear with increasing frequency in the Western press. A few days ago the well-known American commentator James Reston wrote: The American President and his advisers are "tormented by vague doubts at night: They sense increasingly strong and dangerous concealed currents under their feet." "No President since the time of Hoover," Reston noted, "has had to defend such weak economic positions." Further on, speaking of the President's flouting of his election promises, the commentator noted: "People who believed in the old Carter are doubtful of the new Carter, who has renounced his former philosophy and who will soon have to look his 'service record' in the face."

Reston is not alone in drawing such conclusions. Prof (?E. Khelker) of Cornell University observes: "Americans are no longer displaying the spirit which turns people into citizens and territory into a nation." Here is the conclusion of S. Lind, a teacher at another university, Yale: "Instead of treating life carefully, like a careful gardener or a teacher, our society approaches it with a policeman's severity. The wave of repressions and authoritarianism is growing in America because the upper strata of society want everything to stay as it was. They are prepared to destroy the world rather than allow it to get out of their control."

In this situation, more than ever before, people all over the world are pinning their hopes for preserving peace on the reasonableness and political farsightedness which characterize the course of the land of the soviets.

To fetter the forces of war and aggression, to protect and consolidate universal peace--that is the aim toward which the Soviet Union's might is directed, and that might is great; that is the aim toward which the socialist community countries direct their foreign policy efforts.

The progress of world events indicates one extremely important law of social development in our era: While the strengthening of imperialism's might gives rise to a threat to the cause of peace and the peoples' freedom, the increase in socialism's might on the contrary creates an insuperable barrier in the path of the instigators of military adventures.

The main peace initiatives which caused the seventies to become a period of detente emanated precisely from the socialist community. Now mankind heeds with a special feeling the voice of Lenin's party, which confidently says: Despite all difficulties the eighties will be years of the further strengthening of socialism and new progress for the cause of universal peace.

The Soviet Union does not give way to provocations, it rejects the escalation of arms and the military blackmail in which the transatlantic military is trying to involve the whole world. A great impression is produced on the peoples by the fact that at this particularly crucial moment in international life the USSR is carrying out a further withdrawal of military units, together with tanks, from GDR territory. The peoples can see that the Soviet Union is true to its word, true to its commitments in the detente sphere.

The Destroyers of Detente

The more imperialism's potential for dominating other countries and peoples is curtailed, the more unreasonably the most aggressive, shortsighted representatives of the old world react.

Of course, the Washington administration's current bout of hysteria is largely explained in terms of the 1980 election campaign. The government, which has proved bankrupt in terms of fulfilling the promises it lavished during the 1976 elections, is now placing all the emphasis on foreign policy issues. Here, indeed, no secret is made of the fact that it is a question of steps which have nothing to do with concern for maintaining peace.

Z. Brzezinski recently admitted frankly that the United States "has been working intensively for the last few years with a view to bringing American might into play more rapidly" in the Persian Gulf region. So the ballyhoo around the American hostages in Tehran is only a screen to cover militarist actions whose foundations were laid several years ago. President Carter, speaking in the past week, let it be known unambiguously that the United States divides the globe into zones of its own "interests" and that it attaches special significance to the "defense of American national interests in southwest Asia." The White House press secretary, commenting on the President's statement, explained that there is no difference between the concepts "national interests" and "strategic interests." So the hysteria around events in Afghanistan is also only a pretext for the implementation of plans in that region long ago conceived by the Pentagon. Having suffered disaster in Southeast Asia a few years ago, U.S. imperialism would apparently like a "replay" in southwest Asia.

But it follows from this that the intensification of aggressive trends in U.S. policy is not linked to the presidential elections alone. Imperialism has switched to a counter-offensive against peace and the peoples' right which is neither episodic nor regional. West Europe, the Far, Middle and Near East and Africa--all these areas have become zones of American imperialist military-political and economic expansion.

The transatlantic military is getting the green light and is "flexing its muscles." Yesterday, on orders from U.S. Defense Secretary H. Brown, the flag was raised at the headquarters of the "quick-reaction corps" which is in the process of formation. This mobile crack police force is being set up to safeguard those "national interests" whose boundaries Brown describes as follows: "In a sense the U.S. border runs along a large arc which includes areas vital to us, from north Norway to Japan and the Aleutian Islands."

Given this policy, Washington has no room left for peaceful international cooperation. In an attempt to kindle anti-Soviet hysteria the Washington administration is implementing new measures aimed at complicating and curtailing Soviet-American relations. The White House is pulling down everything that has been created at the cost of great effort in recent years--trade and economic relations with the USSR, shipping, scientific ties and cultural exchange. There are attempts to sow the seeds of alienation and enmity even in the Olympic movement.

"Carter's policy vis-a-vis the Soviet Union," the West German paper NEURNBERGER NACHRICHTEN observes, "has acquired grotesque features" and it adds, with reason: "The embargo on deliveries to the USSR has shown itself to be, to use Chinese terminology, a 'paper tiger.'" In fact, the undermining of trade and economic relations with the USSR will not affect our country in the way the originators of this anti-Soviet venture expect. But this short-sighted policy will be a blow to the interests of American business.

Better To Trade Than To Wage War

The adventurist "doctrines" of the latter-day champions of the "position of strength" policy are dangerous not to a particular country or group of countries. They are a threat to the peace and security of all states. The peoples are coming to a greater realization of this.

The system of peaceful international relations which the aggressive U.S. circles are endeavoring to dynamite is by no means as fragile as they believe. The vital interests of the peace-loving peoples coincide to the extent that this foundation is not being undermined and, we are confident, will not be undermined.

The rebuff to the adventurist policy of the enemies of detente is being felt more and more, for example, in Europe, whose peoples have enjoyed the fruits of peace for 35 years. The Europeans know from their own experience the advantages of a tranquil, peaceful life and mutually advantageous trade. Noting the fact that detente has unquestionably contributed to the preservation of peace, French President V. Giscard d'Estaing said the other day: A policy which has made it possible to preserve peace under conditions of superarmament and fierce ideological conflict is a policy that makes a positive contribution to the development of the international situation.

Naturally, there is a growing desire on the part of the very experienced Europeans to rebuff those forces across the Atlantic who would like to make West Europe a pawn in their reckless game. Washington is trying to counterpose to this healthy trend calls for continued "Atlantic solidarity." But these invocations are scarcely likely to deceive those who have retained the ability to assess events independently and objectively.

The Paris paper LES ECHOS wrote: The Americans are exasperatedly drawing the conclusion that the Europeans "do not know what they want." But in fact, the paper noted, the Europeans at least know what they do not want: "They do not want Washington to dictate to them a line of behavior that would entail having to sacrifice detente."

The Hamburg Institute of Economic Research recently estimated that as a result of limits on trade with the CEMA countries the FRG economy alone "might expect to lose exports worth an annual DM16 billion" and that the consequences of this reduction "would be fatal in terms of unemployment in certain sectors." No wonder 81 percent of the German population favored the continuation of the detente policy and talks with Moscow, according to the public opinion poll reported recently by the paper SALZBURGER NACHRICHTEN. This is the way commonsense people in other West European countries see the situation.

There is a growing realization that the Carter administration is leading its NATO partners into a very dangerous trap beneath the banner of "Atlantic solidarity." The Washington politicians' hypocritical protestations that their actions are a "response" to events in Afghanistan or that the United States allegedly wants to shield "defenseless" West Europe from Soviet missiles are being viewed with growing skepticism here.

It would be unrealistic, of course, to turn a blind eye to the fact that on a number of important questions of vital significance for the fate of peace some West European governments, primarily Britain and the FRG, are yielding to Washington's pressure. The most dangerous element here is consent to the U.S. diktat on the deployment of new American missiles in West Europe, which will result in these countries' becoming hostages of the Pentagon.

Independently minded people in West Europe are bound to be alarmed by Washington's growing appeals to their allies to implement a "division of labor" in pursuing the aggressive plans elaborated by the Pentagon, especially in the Near East region. Thus the United States is seeking to tighten the lasso thrown from across the Atlantic around the necks of its "junior partners."

Not surprisingly this diktat policy is misfiring in today's conditions. The CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR warned the other day: "It is an obvious fact that Carter is treating the NATO alliance in the way his predecessors tended to treat it in the heyday of American might when Washington possessed decisive military strength.... But times have changed." I might add that they have changed forever!

The socialist community, other peace-loving states, the communist and national liberation movement and social forces upholding the cause of peace are now the decisive factor in world politics. These powerful forces are capable of protecting the peoples' tranquility and security. This they will do!

ARBATOV ASSESSES CONSEQUENCES FOR PEACE OF CURRENT POLICY

LD041115 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Mar 80 p 6 LD

[Academician G. Arbatov article: "On the Threshold of a New Decade: U.S. Foreign Policy"]

[Text] By the seventies, after many misfortunes, disappointments and shocks, America had begun to reach the conclusion that the "position of strength" and "cold war" policy is senseless and dangerous and that in the nuclear age there is no resonable alternative to relations of peaceful coexistence. These sentiments could not fail to influence policy, promoting the relaxation of international tension.

As is known, different political winds are now blowing in the United States and the tone is set by the opposite sentiments. The course proclaimed by the White House is sending America back into the well-worn rut of the "cold war."

What has happened, why has U.S. policy changed so abruptly?

The official American story, according to which the cause lies in events in Afghanistan, does not stand up to criticism, if only because the main decisions underlying the new policy--the course of the accelerated buildup of the military might of the United States and its allies--were adopted before those events, not after. They include the NATO decision on an annual increase in military budgets for the next 15 years. They include the U.S. President's decision on a "5-year plan" of new military programs and unprecedented arms appropriations. They include the decision on deploying new American medium range weapons in Europe--a decision which is extremely dangerous for the cause of peace throughout the world and particularly in Europe.

The United States also took other steps before the events in Afghanistan: It froze arms limitation talks, took a course of retarding the ratification of the SALT II treaty, if not actually wrecking it, sharply increased the pitch of anti-Soviet hysteria and speeded up rapprochement with Beijing on an anti-Soviet basis.

Thus it was already clear by mid-December that the United States was making a sharp turn in its policy, and this was the platform which Carter adopted in the election struggle.

Attempts to justify the turn toward the "cold war" with references to the allegedly increasing "Soviet military threat" are also unsubstantiated.

When well-informed politicians and specialists in their right mind talk about such a threat, they are doing so above all because it is easier and more convenient for them to step up military preparations and put forward shameless demands and claims if they refer to the USSR--look what it is making "peace-loving" America do, they say.

In fact nobody has provoked the United States into a toughening of its foreign policy. The responsibility for this is its own. And here I would like to move on from imaginary reasons to the real ones.

They are rooted in the fact that despite the lengthy period of detente, the past, with its global claims and "cold war," has not been fully overcome in the U.S. ruling class; the past which brought the United States to an acute, multifaceted crisis on the watershed between the sixties and seventies. At that time both the public and a considerable proportion of the ruling circles realized that there was no other way out for the United States than to begin revising the foundations of its foreign policy. What was on the agenda was not changes in the details, but fundamental work to adapt the policy to the changes in the world and its new realities. [paragraph continues]

In essence, it was to be a question of breaking with the principles, ideas and traditions of an entire period--the period of the exceptional situation in which America found itself immediately after World War II by virtue of the totality of unrepeatable and transitory historical circumstances (although the Americans, naturally, wanted to regard them as the natural and eternal order of things).

Naturally, there were very influential forces in the United States (the military-industrial complex above all) which were unwilling to reconcile themselves to this. Bitter fighting immediately flared up around the elaboration of policy. An whereas at first realistic currents took the upper hand, from the second half of the seventies those currents began to slow. A considerable role was played here by the broad campaign launched by the most aggressive imperialist circles around problems toward which the U.S. ruling class displayed special sensitivity.

Among these problems are the considerable restriction of opportunities for dictating their will to other countries, the intensification of a sharply negative attitude to armed adventures overseas which occurred in the United States after the failure of the aggression in Vietnam, and particularly the U.S. loss of military superiority.

A great influence was exerted on the sentiments of the U.S. ruling elite by the exacerbation of the problem of natural resources, especially oil. Although America has long been talking willingly of the growing "interdependence" of countries as a sign of the times, growing dependence on oil from the Near East was interpreted there as impermissible "vulnerability" providing grounds for soliciting special rights in that region. Imperialist claims were revived in so inveterate a form that people would have been afraid to speak them aloud even at the end of the 19th century.

I would also like to mention another factor which is increasingly affecting the position of a considerable number of representatives of the U.S. ruling circles. That factor is China, or rather the illusions associated with it. Illusions concerning the idea that rapprochement with the chauvinist Chinese leadership, which is kindling anti-Soviet hysteria, can change the balance of forces, strengthen America's positions and permit it to get by without detente altogether and again start throwing its weight around on our world to its heart's content.

All this created favorable soil for the emergence of concepts according to which U.S. military and economic might will become an increasingly weighty factor in world policy the more flagrantly and forthrightly it is brought into operation to suppress some and inspire fear in others. As far as can be judged, the support they received for a concept like this is by no means unconditional (and it is hard to say how long-term it is). But it proved sufficient for the administration to begin to change course sharply.

Obviously, the change in course required not only changes in the sentiments of the ruling circles. It was also necessary to undermine the public's resistance to attempts to bring about a turn from detente toward "cold war."

After all, detente and its main aspects, such as the improvement in relations and the development of mutually advantageous cooperation with the USSR and the limitation of the arms race, were supported by the vast majority of Americans. [paragraph continues]

That is why the opponents of detente have been making desperate efforts for a long time to poison the political atmosphere. For this purpose the hysterical "Soviet threat" campaign has been stepped up again and nationalist and even chauvinist sentiments have been fanned in every way. The difficulties confronting the United States, in particular the recent crisis in Iranian-American relations and the seizure of Tehran Embassy employees as hostages, have been used very skillfully for this purpose.

These efforts were bound to leave a trace, especially as in one respect they fell on fertile ground. Indeed, it is a fact that under U.S. conditions today it is far more advantageous and safer for politicians to err in the direction of "leaning" to the right, in the direction of implacability, hatred and toughness. For some reason this stance is regarded as more patriotic although, in a nuclear age, it places the country in a most perilous situation. For some reason this stance is regarded as more sober and realistic, yet what could be more illusory today than pinning hopes of security on the arms race and the policy of strength. It is not just a situation where the quick-on-the-draw cowboy remains not only the favorite movie hero but also a political symbol dear to the hearts of many Americans. A far bigger role is played by the surviving legacy of hegemonism and "cold war."

It must be said that the current administration's policy has also contributed to a considerable degree to the deterioration in the political atmosphere in the United States. Recently TIME magazine quoted a State Department official's comment that Z. Brzezinski "has at last got his cold war" and it perspicaciously remarked that the situation which at first glance confirms the validity of the "hard" line vis-a-vis the USSR, which Brzezinski has long been preaching, was created in many respects by his own efforts, by his anti-Soviet policy. But it can scarcely be considered the work of one man alone.

A role was also played by the fact that the moment of the adoption of important foreign policy decisions coincided with the start of the new election campaign. In fact, election eve in America is a bad time for good politics and a good time for bad politics.

But enough on the reasons. Let us turn to another question--that of the possible consequences of the changes in the American foreign policy course.

Their danger must not be underestimated. President Carter wasted no time in calling the events in Afghanistan the greatest threat to universal peace since the end of World War II. May this utterance rest on his conscience. But it would certainly be no exaggeration whatsoever to say that the biggest threat to universal peace, at any rate in the past 10 years, is the U.S. shift toward the cold war policy.

The second edition of the cold war would undoubtedly be even more dangerous than the first. More dangerous because a return to totally unlimited hostility and confrontation would take place at a new level of development of means of destruction, making military conflict more likely and its consequences even more devastating. Moreover, more participants in international relations would be dragged into the maelstrom of the second cold war. And in conflict relations, the greater the number the greater the risk; especially if some of these participants tend to play a most reckless and irresponsible game in the world arena--like the one China plays.

A great threat from a return to cold war lies also in the fact that it makes virtually inevitable the proliferation of nuclear weapons (the change in U.S. policy has already increased the likelihood of Pakistan's becoming a nuclear power).

And there is another important point. The next decades will be a period of serious aggravation of global problems--natural resources and energy, food and others. Detente increases the possibility of their solution. Under cold war conditions, on the other hand, the possibility of solving these problems in the interests of the peoples is severely restricted and rivalry between states grows and gets worse.

This is what the new U.S. policy may mean for the world. Nor will it mean anything positive for the United States for the goals set by this policy are mostly unattainable and have nothing to do with the real problems facing the United States.

One such goal is the attainment of military superiority. In the first place, the Soviet Union currently has greater opportunities than ever before of frustrating these plans and preserving parity in the military sphere. Furthermore, there are considerable doubts about the feasibility of current plans to continuously increase U.S. military expenditure. America is a rich country, of course, with a vast economy. But its very acute economic problems are growing and many of them have a direct or indirect bearing on excessive military expenditure. There is inflation. There is unemployment (money spent on arms creates, as has been proved, far fewer jobs than it would create in the civilian sector). There is the slowing down of scientific and technical progress. There is the channeling of money and resources away from the solution of complex social problems.

Finally, we come to the chief point. What can America buy for the hundreds of billions or maybe trillions it currently intends to spend on military needs? Security against the Soviet Union, as the makers of the new U.S. policy maintain? But America's security, and even its existence, is threatened not by the Soviet Union but by the continuing arms race, tension and unsettled conflicts--everything that may sooner or later get out of control and lead to thermonuclear disaster. This real threat to the United States and all other countries is only exacerbated by the shift in American policy.

But what "advantages" can the revival of interventionism envisaged by the "Carter doctrine" produce for America? Here we are faced with a clinical case of historical amnesia, a complete inability to understand the true reasons for one's foreign policy defeats and failures.

These reasons certainly do not lie in U.S. "weakness" and "indecision" or in detente, but in the traditionally imperialist U.S. approach toward other countries which took root during cold war years and the practice of supporting terrorist, corrupt regimes alien to the peoples. By installing dictators for decades and justifying this by clumsy maxims such as "he may be a son of a bitch but he's our son of a bitch" the United States was essentially planting delayed-action mines under the future of its own foreign policy. Now these are exploding one after another. This was one of the main lessons of Vietnam and was cogently reaffirmed during the seventies in other "crisis points" in the world, Iran in particular. The revolutionary situation in Iran emerged not least because of the systematic abuse of power for more than 25 years after 1953, when the Americans interfered crudely in Iran's affairs, overthrew the Mossadeq government and installed the shah in power.

All of these delayed-action mines have not yet exploded. But their timing mechanisms are inexorably ticking away. And instead of defusing these mines, the United States is now planning to add more and more new ones to them. Once again, a price will have to be paid for this.

The gamble on the forcible military solution of problems looks still more dubious when this solution is justified by U.S. "vital interests" such as the need for oil. Let us leave aside even the moral aspect of the matter. Military force is certainly capable of doing some things--bombing, destroying and burning the oilfields and oil pipelines. But is that going to provide oil? No, the task of insuring uninterrupted oil supplies from the Near East, from the Persian Gulf countries, does not lend itself to a military solution. Peace in the region, the abandonment of interference in its countries' internal affairs and just and equitable relations with them--those are the necessary conditions for a true solution.

Something else that is necessary for a solution of the energy problem and the raw material problem as a whole is, above all, peace, the potential of releasing the great funds and resources absorbed by the arms race, and broad international cooperation.

Stanley Hoffmann, the well-known American specialist on international relations, recently observed quite rightly that the source of the foreign policy failures experienced by the United States is bound up "not with muscles, but with brains." Washington's line of building up its military muscles in every possible way and unceremoniously using them does not produce an impression of determination and firmness. It looks more like an example of political stagnation and intellectual cowardice and an attempt at a very crucial moment to hide from the difficulties that really exist behind trite political formulas that have shown their untenability. This policy has no future, nor can it have any: But it can cause damage and is already doing so.

The amount of damage will, of course, depend largely on how long this policy lasts out and how actively it is possible to implement it. These questions still remain open. Above all because the struggle over the basic trends in the development of international relations is not finished with the proclamation of the "Carter doctrine" but is merely flaring up with new force.

No one should have any doubts about what position the USSR will adopt in this struggle. While firmly rebuffing any hostile onslaughts, the Soviet Union will at the same time pursue unswervingly, in the eighties as in the seventies, the course enshrined in the peace program of the 24th and 25th party congresses. As Comrade L.I. Brezhnev noted, to the "doctrine" of war hysteria and frantic arms race "we counterpose the doctrine of a consistent struggle for peace and security on earth." The elections speeches by the leaders of the CPSU and the Soviet state have stressed our determination to continue the struggle for detente, arms reduction and the peaceful settlement of conflicts and our readiness to develop peaceful cooperation with all countries, the United States included.

The other socialist states are struggling with the Soviet Union for peace and detente. This struggle will certainly also receive broad support from many developing countries.

Nor do the European capitalist countries and Japan want to return to cold war. That is obvious right now. A change in political sentiments can also be expected in the United States itself. Americans have been kept in a state of almost permanent artifically fueled political crisis since last September. Although so far this has improved the President's chances in the upcoming elections, the country can scarcely be kept in this state forever.

No one expects the Americans and their allies to approve the April revolution in Afghanistan and the assistance that the Soviet Union has given that country. But as the dust of the anti-Soviet campaign that has now been unleashed settles, an atmosphere conducive to more sober reflection and assisting commonsense will take shape. In such an atmosphere it is easier to see events in their true proportions, evaluate them soberly and decide whether because of something you dislike it is worth shattering and smashing everything that is needed and vitally necessary--hopes of lasting peace and of ending the arms race, of detente and mutually advantageous cooperation.

Washington is offering for the eighties a policy already tried and bankrupted before the beginning of the seventies. It is hardly likely that many people will be found who want to travel that path all over again.

An extremely crucial moment is coming in international relations. The fate of peace largely depends on whether the attempts by U.S. aggressive forces to return to cold war meet with a fitting rebuff.

SOBELEV, SOKOLOV CHIDE U.S. 'CONFUSION' ON UN VOTE

LD042324 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1735 GMT 4 Mar 80 LD

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Vitaliy Sobelev and Vitaliy Sokolov]

[Text] The Israeli Cabinet of Ministers was to meet today, AFP reports. On the agenda was reaction to the voting of the U.S. representative in the Security Council in favor of the resolution condemning the construction of militarized Israeli settlements on occupied Arab lands and demanding the elimination of these settlements. But hardly had the Tel Aviv ministers expressed their indignation, and thus signaled to the Zionist lobby in Washington, when it became clear that there was no cause for indignation. The White House, in a confused communique, as AFP put it, stated that the American representative at the Security Council had made a mistake, that he had misread the text of the resolution and that there were no changes in U.S. policy in the Near East and none were envisaged.

Although we are against the construction of militarized settlements, the White House document says, we do not demand that these settlements be removed. This question should be reviewed at the talks between Israel and Egypt. In brief, the initiators of the Camp David separate deal propose that the other two participants in that deal should rule over the fate of the population of lands which have never belonged to either Israel or Egypt. And at the same time, Israel will continue to colonize these lands. Even if the United States retracts its vote, the Security Council resolution remains in force.

U.S. 'DOING EVERYTHING' TO OBSTRUCT AFGHAN PULLOUT

LD041435 Moscow ZA RUBEZHOM in Russian No 10 Signed to Press 28 Feb 80 p 1 LD

[Editorial: "Two Policies, Two Doctrines"]

[Excerpt] The socialist community countries' joint struggle for detente and to lessen the threat of world nuclear missile war and their principled peace policy are among the main factors in international life. This struggle is now the main guarantee of mankind's peaceful future. "We are true to the peace program put forward by our party's 24th and 25th congresses. So now in the eighties, as in the seventies, we advocate strengthening detente, not destroying it; reducing armaments, not swelling them; rapprochement and mutual understanding among the peoples, not artificial alienation and enmity," L.I. Brezhnev stressed.

It is common knowledge that virtually all the most important decisions taken at international forums in the past decade with respect to strengthening peace and curbing the arms race, and also the most important talks on these issues are the result of the initiative of the Soviet state and socialist community countries. The most vivid example in this sphere is provided by the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. By synthesizing the results of all its work in the Final Act, it laid such a firm foundation for the edifice of detente and advantageous cooperation among our continent's states that now, at a period when the international climate is changing under the influence of a "cyclone" acorss the ocean, with its cold political winds, it is proving capable of enduring and maintaining the warmth of normal life. Despite the increased complexity of the situation, the Soviet Union believes that all the talks in the sphere of curbing the arms race and of disarmament started in recent years but currently suspended or deferred must be resumed and continued--on a constructive basis, of course. The continuing withdrawal of Soviet troop contingents from the GDR is the best confirmation that our country's 6 October proposals still remain in force and the USSR is prepared to sit down at the negotiating table regarding disarmament issues relevant to Europe if the NATO decision on American medium-range nuclear missile weapons in Europe is rescinded or if, at least, its implementation is officially suspended.

The strength of our foreign policy is that it accords with the vital interests both of the socialist countries and of the vast majority of the earth's population in general, including the peoples who have liberated themselves from colonial oppression and are engaged in the difficult business of building a new, independent life. True to Lenin's behests, the Soviet Union always sides with peoples defending their freedom and independence. It is from precisely this standpoint that the Soviet land, which has a friendship treaty with Afghanistan, approached the issue of assisting this state against an external threat.

Rebuff for Sinister Schemes

The Soviet stance is perfectly clearly defined here: Our limited contingents are not in Afghanistan for any aggressive purposes or to threaten the Persian Gulf oil-producing countries or international oil shipments. The USSR will withdraw them as soon as the reasons for their presence disappear and the Afghan Government deems them no longer necessary. "I want to declare with the utmost clarity: We will be prepared to start withdrawing our troops as soon as all forms of external interference directed against Afghanistan's Government and people cease completely," L.I. Brezhnev declared. What is needed for this are guarantees from the United States and Afghanistan's neighbors, since it is well known that it is precisely the Americans, Chinese and certain others who are directing against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan the intervention that created a serious threat to the Afghan revolution and also the security of our southern border. Last week's attempt putsch in Kabul was directed from abroad--it is not for nothing that the arrested counterrevolutionaries include a CIA agent and Pakistani saboteurs. Thus the United States, which is loudly demanding the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, is effectively doing everything it can to make that possibility more remote and is continuing and even building up its interference in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan's affairs.

By creating hysteria throughout the world and circulating the lies about the "Russians' war against the Afghan people" and the "Soviet threat to Pakistan and Iran," Washington is merely exploiting what it regards as a convenient pretext for interfering in other peoples' affairs, for covering up and "justifying" its expansion in Asia, the Near and Middle East and other regions of the globe, and also for further building up the arms race implemented at the demand of the most bellicose American imperialist circles--the military-industrial complex. [paragraph continues]

U.S. Secretary of State Vance's lightning trip to a number of West European countries and the visits by other U.S. Government emissaries to Near Eastern, Persian Gulf and African states with a view to forcing countries linked with and dependent on Washington to spend more funds on armaments or to grant bases for the American armed forces are all dangerous intrigues against peace. This is realized by sober-minded statesmen and politicians in various countries, who are refusing to follow the lead of the White House's adventurist policy to the detriment of national interests.

"The adventurist 'doctrines' of the new champions of the 'position of strength' policy are not just dangerous to any individual country or group of countries. They pose a threat to peace and the security of all states and peoples. And it is the business of all who need and value peace to rebuff these sinister schemes," L.I. Brezhnev stresses. As for the land of the soviets, we will confidently bear aloft the banner of the Leninist foreign policy--the banner of peace, freedom and the peoples' independence, the banner of social progress.

FAILURE OF ECONOMIC EMBARGO AGAINST USSR PREDICTED

LD041655 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Feb 80 p 4 LD

[Yu. Krasnov article: "Unfounded Calculations: The U.S. Embargo Policy and Its Consequences"]

[Text] The word "embargo" is to be glimpsed in the world press. It is connected with Washington's foreign policy actions. Economic sanctions occupy a prominent place in the U.S. administration's present actions styled in the spirit of the cold war and representing interference in the internal affairs of other peoples. Thus, under the pretext of the events in Afghanistan, the United States has imposed restrictions on the export of a number of U.S. goods to the USSR.

What is the meaning of these measures on which, to all appearances, the U.S. administration pins great hopes?

An economic embargo is a ban on deliveries or purchases of particular goods, services, and scientific and technical know-how. This is not the first time that the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries have encountered an embargo policy or a course toward their isolation in the world economy. With the aid of this "weapon" imperialism tried to stifle the young Soviet state which had not yet found its feet after the devastations caused by the intervention and Civil War. However, these attempts failed. Even then V.I. Lenin noted with good reason that he did not know who found the blockade harder: those who were being blockaded or those who were doing the blockading.

During the cold war the policy of embargo, including the ban on exports, the refusal to cooperation with the socialist countries in the currency and credit sphere, and the discrimination on the freight and charter market was adopted by a number of leading Western countries. Fruitless attempts were made to exclude the socialist countries from international economic exchange with a view to wrecking or at least considerably delaying their economic development. To this day a U.S. embargo is in force against Cuba, the democratic Republic of Vietnam [as published] and the DPRK. Even now a ban on the export of "strategic" goods to the USSR and the other socialist countries is in force within the NATO framework.

In this connection it should be noted above all that the Soviet Union even in the past has always successfully overcome the temporary difficulties caused by the sudden curtailment of deliveries of a particular product from the West, setting up its own production of the relevant goods.

At the same time the breaking of traditional ties with the vast and stable markets of the socialist countries has always been quite painful for many Western firms. Suffice it to recall the example of the embargo introduced in 1963 on the delivery of large-diameter pipes for the Soviet Union by the West German Mannesman concern. The temporary pipe deficit which arose was covered by the USSR both by commissioning new capacities for the production of pipes and by deliveries of pipes from other countries which did not let slip a favorable opportunity to expand the sale of their output. The would-be supplier was the victim of the embargo.

It is not surprising that the present U.S. policy of drawing other countries into a dangerous economic swindle is meeting with a rebuff from realistically minded politicians and businessmen in the West. Thus French Foreign Minister J. Francois-Poncet stated in an interview with the Europe-1 radio station that France does not intend to change the nature of its economic relations with the USSR and does not plan to make them conditional on political considerations. B. Beitzen, chairman of the supervisory board of the firm F. Krupp GMBH, who was in Moscow recently, and other major representatives of FRG business circles have assessed highly the results achieved and the opportunities for further intensifying mutually advantageous economic relations between the FRG and the USSR. Similar statements are being made in the business circles of other states. At the sessions of the leading NATO and EEC organs convened under pressure from Washington the West European countries are resisting the policy of economic sanctions against the USSR imposed on them by the United States.

Indeed, in the United States itself the administration's present course is being greeted without enthusiasm. Many sober voices are being heard there too. As Senator A. Stevenson has stressed, restrictions on U.S.-Soviet trade "penalize" the United States and not the USSR. The New York TIMES has written that "the use of international trade as an instrument of foreign policy is highly dubious."

To all appearances some politicians in the West and primarily U.S. President J. Carter and his entourage have become prisoner to myths created by their own propaganda. As is well known in recent years the Western mass information media have been zealously disseminating the far-fetched thesis that the USSR and the other socialist countries will be unable to resolve their problems without outside aid, without importing from the capitalist countries a number of goods including equipment, food and technological know-how.

The USSR, like any other country, is objectively interested in intensifying the international division of labor and in mutually advantageous trade and economic and scientific ties with all states of the world, including those which belong to a different socio-political system. But, and this must be mentioned yet again, the cold war and the virtual economic blockade against the socialist countries have not been able to halt the advance of their economy, science and tehcnology. Now that the USSR's economy has achieved an even higher level and Soviet industry can supply its national economy with virtually all types of modern and most complex equipment, the hopes of some U.S. politicians of halting its development with the aid of discriminatory measures are naive to say the least.

Those who form illusions regarding the possibility of harming the Soviet Union's interests with the aid of an embargo should familiarize themselves beforehand with elementary statistical data. These data attest that the import of equipment from the capitalist countries, including the United States has never played a determining part in forming the USSR's industrial base. [paragraph continues]

In the first 3 years of the 10th 5-Year Plan for instance, R130.3 billion were invested in equipment in the USSR while machinery and equipment worth R1.2 billion were imported from the United States. Cynical calculations regarding the "deterioration" of the food situation in the Soviet Union as a result of the refusal to sell us grain are also built on ridiculous notions of our economic potential. In the above-mentioned period 657 million tons of grain were harvested in the USSR while 32.5 million tons of grain (mainly feed grain) was imported from the United States. It should not be forgotten that throughout these years the USSR has also acted as an exporter of grain exporting several million tons of food grain every year.

The initiators of all sorts of bans in foreign trade should not forget either that a discriminatory policy will inevitably have a boomerang effect on their own country. Thus, with regard to the ban on grain shipments the WALL STREET JOURNAL wrote that despite the aid measures promised by the U.S. Government U.S. farmers will suffer great damage, primarily as a result of the fall in prices which has already begun.

The Carter administration's unilateral arbitrary steps are creating for the United States the reputation of being an unreliable partner, a state which is prepared at any moment to violate the international commitments it has undertaken. In undermining the trade between East and West which should become an important stabilizing factor in relations among the peoples and the material fabric of detente, Washington is harming also the cause of peace and mutual understanding among the peoples and poisoning the international atmosphere.

The steps Washington is taking to undermine trade and economic relations between our countries will not, of course, have the effect on the USSR on which the U.S. administration is counting but will probably deprive U.S. business circles of advantageous contracts. The only sensible path, Comrade L.I. Brezhnev said when receiving A. Hammer, the eminent representative of U.S. business circles, is the path of the reduction of tension, arms limitation, mutually advantageous cooperation and the quest for mutually acceptable solutions to problems which arise on an honest, equitable basis.

As for the embargo policy proper, those who have introduced it have frequently failed in the past. The same fate awaits those who are resorting to it again.

BARSUKOV ON OUTCOME OF NEW HAMPSHIRE PRIMARIES

LD050923 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 29 Feb 80 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[Dispatch from Yu. Barsukov under the general headline "From Our Correspondents": "The First Trial of Strength"]

[Text] Washington--The primary elections held in the small northeastern state of New Hampshire are traditionally regarded as the true opening of the presidential election campaign.

Although in terms of ethnic, social and age composition it is a far from typical U.S. state, the New Hampshire primaries have always attracted a lot of attention from the media. The New Hampshire primaries are considered to be the first trial of strength of potential presidential candidates from the two main U.S. bourgeois parties--the Democratic Party and the Republican Party. Victory in New Hampshire has usually been a springboard for further successes by the winners.

This year the New Hampshire primaries were not the first tussle of presidential hopefuls. They were preceeded by Democratic and Republican caucuses in the states of Iowa and Main. [paragraph continues]

These gave the first indications of the disposition of forces within the parties on the eve of a series of primaries in 36 states. Nevertheless, the results of the New Hampshire elections provoked a tremendous response and lively commentary.

New Hampshire Democrats have a clear preference for President Carter. He won 49 percent of the votes. Senator Edward Kennedy won 38 percent. This is seen as quite an achievement on the senator's part, although before the elections it was thought that Senator Kennedy would get much more support in New Hampshire, which neighbors his home state of Massachusetts.

Prior to New Hampshire Senator Kennedy twice lost to President Carter--in Iowa and Maine. Kennedy's attempts to draw the voters' attention to America's main problems--inflation, unemployment and the energy crisis--have so far been successfully parried by the President, who is skillfully exploiting the chauvinist and militarist mood in the country artificially fueled on the administration's initiative.

The Republican winner of the New Hampshire primaries was former Governor of California Ronald Reagan who, following defeats in the states of Iowa and Maine at the hands of former U.S. UN Representative George Bush, restored his position as front-runner among the many republican candidates. It is expected however, that following the New Hampshire elections the number of Republican candidates in the running for the presidency will be considerably reduced.

PRAVDA ON CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S SOCIAL PROGRAMS

LD291447 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 February 1980 carries on page 4 a 2,100-word article by Candidate of Historical Sciences V. Linnik entitled "Marking Time or Moving Backward? On the U.S. Administration's Social Policy." The article says that there is increasing dissatisfaction now among various sections of the American population with the present administration's domestic policy:

"From the beginning of the 1980 presidential election campaign, dissatisfaction among labor unions, black organizations and U.S. liberal groupings over the Democratic administration's abandonment of its promises in the domestic policy sphere has been increasingly widespread."

The article describes the emergence of social programs in the United States, saying that they were an attempt by the ruling classes to appease the masses at times of unrest and economic upheaval. For example, in the sixties new social programs appeared "as a result of the widespread civil rights movements." The present administration's policy, the article continues, is a "step back" from the social activity of the sixties. Although the 1976 Democratic Party Convention called for a "radical reform" of the social welfare system, there has been little progress in this sphere since the Democrats came to office. The administration's budget for 1980-1981, the article says, reflect the socioeconomic platform with which the White House is approaching the next presidential election. This envisages a reduction in expenditure on the population's needs and an increase in military spending. The article talks of the "joyous excitement" in the defense industry at this, and says that it is the "middle class, manual workers, national minorities and all victims of discrimination" who are paying for this.

CCP PLENUM CONFIRMS POWER STRUGGLE CONTINUES

LD042025 Moscow TASS in English 1958 GMT 4 Mar 80 LD

["On the Plenum of CPC Central Committee"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, March 4, TASS--The 5th Plenum of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China was held in Beijing towards the end of February. According to documents released by XINHUA NEWS AGENCY after the plenum, the letter discussed problems pertaining to the "strengthening and improvement of the party leadership," cadres changes in its top echelon, and the pre-term convocation of the 12th Congress of the Communist Party of China.

A communique published asserts that "in the main, the transition has been carried out from the state of serious chaos towards a situation characterized by the presence of a leadership, order, a trend and aims of moving forward". Such an optimistic conclusion does not square with the admission that China still faces enormous problems which need "a speedy and urgent" solution. Cited among these problems are the lack of a "long-term programme for the development of national economy," the sharp lagging behind of the economic base and the system of people's education, other numerous unresolved problems in the life of the state and of the CPC. It is characteristic that the plenum deliberately bypassed these essentially most acute questions, putting them off till the next party congress whose specific time for convening has not been stipulated in the decisions.

The discussion of the cadres problems resulted in the removal from the Politbureau of the Central Committee and relieving of all their party and state positions of the people promoted during the period of the "Cultural Revolution," Deputy Chairman of the CPC Central Committee Wang Dongxing, members of the Politbureau Ji Dengkui, Wu De and Chen Xilian, who have committed, according to the communique, "grave errors." Introduced into the Standing Committee of the Politbureau of the CPC Central Committee are Hu Yaobang and Zhao Ziyang. The Secretariat of the Central Committee, consisting of 11 members, liquidated at the beginning of the "Cultural Revolution" has been restored: Hu Yaobang has now been appointed to the post of the general secretary of the Central Committee held before 1966 by Deng Xiaoping. These cadres changes reflect a new shift in the alignment of forces in Beijing's ruling top, which is, judging by everything, in favour of Deng Xiaoping's group. These changes were preceded by a protracted struggle within the leadership. As to the present chairman of the CPC Central Committee and Premier of the State Council Hua Guofeng, it is noted that after the cadre changes effected, his role and influence have diminished.

The provision, approved by the 5th plenum, on the renovation of the "system of party cadres" and the emphasis on the need to put an end to "factionalism and freewheeling" testify to the new cadres purges now in the making in the party at all the levels of its leadership.

The plenum decided on a posthumous rehabilitation of the former Chairman of the Chinese People's Republic, Deputy Chairman of the CPC Central Committee Liu Shaoqi. As is known, he fell victim to reprisals, accused of pursuing "a counter-revolutionary revisionist line," as the "ring leader" of the so-called "bourgeois headquarters ," etc.

These accusations were put forward on the eve of the "Cultural Revolution" and provided a sort of a political platform for a violent removal of members of the CPC not to the liking of Mao Zedong and for the forcible disbanding of the state organs and public organizations. By rehabilitating Liu Shaoqi and clearing him of all the accusations, the plenum thus was forced actually to recognize the erroneousness of the "Cultural Revolution."

The blame for the "Cultural Revolution" as well as for the damage done by it to the party and the Chinese people is being put on "Lin Biao, the gang of four and co." Completely hushed up is the well-known fact that the "Cultural Revolution" was let loose and "personally directed" by Mao Zedong himself.

The present Beijing leadership continues to defend Mao, to shield Maoism with its anti-socialist, anti-Soviet essence. The plenum stressed explicitely that the "restoration of the true image of the ideas of Mao Zedong is not an empty slogan."

The plenum recommended to the National People's Congress to annul the provision of Article 45 of the Constitution of the Chinese People's Republic, which sets froth the right of the individual "to express opinions, to expound views, to hold discussions and put up dizabao (wall posters)." This step was justified by the need to "contribute to eliminating the factors of instability." The campaign begun earlier by Deng Xiaoping to toughen the administrative control and to suppress manifestations of discontent and the working people's demands of a better life, of safeguarding real rights and freedoms, is thus set forth at present as the official course.

The decisions of the 5th Plenum of the CPC Central Committee demonstrate that the crisis affecting the CPC and its leadership as a result of the prolonged domination of Maoism has not abated. New reshuffles have taken place among the leading cadres. This confirms that the struggle for power continues in Beijing's top echelons. In these conditions, the decisions of the Plenum of the CPC Central Committee aim at consolidating the Beijing leadership and strengthening the existing regime on the political platform of China's accelerated transformation into a powerful militarist state, at its further siding with imperialism and reaction in the whole world.

COMMENT ON SOVIET-KOREA COOPERATION PLAN

SK050230 Moscow in Korean to Korea 0930 GMT 1 Mar 80 SK

[Text] Dear listeners: Recently in Pyongyang a 1980-1981 cooperation plan was signed between the Soviet-Korean Friendship Society of the Union of the Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries and the Korea-Soviet Friendship Society. We asked Comrade (Daidbekov), secretary of the Central Committee of the Soviet-Korean Friendship Society, for a comment on the document.

Comrade (Daidbekov) stated the following: First of all, it should be noted that the plan envisages numerous projects aimed at further developing and consolidating the friendship and cooperation between the peoples of the two countries. I would like to comment on the most important among the projects.

On 22 April this year all progressive mankind will observe the 110th birthday of Vladimir Ilich Lenin, the great leader of the working people. This significant day will be observed in a special way and on a broad scale in the fraternal socialist countries, including the DPRK. In connection with this event, the Soviet-Korean Friendship Society of the Union of the Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries will send to the Central Committee of the Korea-Soviet Friendship Society art films entitled "Lenin in the Year of 1918", "The Family of Ulyanov," and a documentary film entitled "Lenin, [word indistinct] of the Great Life," In addition, a large-scale photo show describing Ulyanovsk, the home town of the great leader, will be arranged for the Korean friends.

This year we will also observe the 35th anniversary of the victory of the Soviet people against Germany and the 35th anniversary of the liberation of Korea by the Soviet Army. In connection with these significant anniversaries, a documentary film "(?The Support) of the Soviet People Will Be Remembered Through All Eternity," depicting the heroism and gallantry displayed by the men and officers of the Soviet Army against the occupiers of fascist Germany and Japanese militarists, will be sent to the DPRK. Meanwhile, our friends of the Central Committee of the Korea-Soviet Friendship Society will send us several photo shows on certain themes. One of the photo shows will be on the month of solidarity with the Korean people's struggle for the withdrawal of the U.S. troops from South Korea and the independent and peaceful reunification of the country. The other will be about the 35th anniversary of the founding of the Korean Workers Party. In Pyongyang we will also have a book show marking the 32nd anniversary of the founding of the DPRK.

The exchange of delegations is a form of traditional cooperation between the Soviet-Korean Friendship Society and the Korea-Soviet Friendship Society. In 1980 and 1981 the exchange of delegations will be further expanded. The delegations of the Korea-Soviet Friendship Society from Kangwon and South Hwanghae provinces are supposed to come to the Soviet Union. The delegations will attend celebrations of the meaningful days in the life of the Soviet people. In 1981 a delegation of the Korea-Soviet Friendship Society will come to the Soviet Union to attend the 5th conference of the Soviet-Korea and Korea-Soviet friendship societies. Meanwhile, many delegations of our friendship society will visit the People's Korea.

I have scanned the major projects envisaged by the 1980-1981 cooperation plan between the friendship societies of the two countries. The accomplishment of the projects will no doubt contribute to further development and consolidation of friendly relations between the working people of our two countries.

POLYANSKIY TALKS TO PRESS ON AFGHANISTAN, SIBERIAN PROJECT

OW050921 Tokyo KYODO in English 0901 GMT 5 Mar 80 OW

[Text] Tokyo, March 5, KYODO--Soviet Ambassador to Japan Dmitriy Polyanskiy said Wednesday that the Soviet Union dispatched its troops to Afghanistan late last year to protect that country's revolution from outside threat after Afghan governments sought Soviet military help on a total of 14 occasions. Polyansky made the remarks in response to questions from journalists at a luncheon at the Japan National Press Club. The ambassador discussed mainly the Afghan problems and Russo-Japanese relations in the 1980's.

Polyanskiy stressed that the Soviet decision to send troops to the southwest Asian country was unavoidable. He said the slain Afghan leader Hafizollah Amin and his two predeccesors had repeatedly asked the Soviet Union to send forces to help the Afghans fight "American imperialists and their accomplices in Beijing." The requests totaled 14, of which four were made by the Amin government during last December, just before the Soviet military intervention, the ambassador said. His country would withdraw its troops from Afghanistan as soon as outside interference in the Afghan internal affairs are terminated, Polyanskiy said.

In discussing Japan-Soviet economic relations, the ambassador devoted much of his time to Russo-Japanese joint development projects in Siberia. The Japanese Government is reported to be considering suspending its cooperation with the joint projects in response to U.S. calls for economic sanctions against the Soviet action in Afghanistan.

Polyanskiy said it was wrong if someone judged that the projects would benefit the Soviet Union much more than Japan. The joint projects are beneficial to both Japan and the Soviet Union, he said. However, the ambassador said, it would not be of great importance to his country even if Japan withdrew from the development projects.

Polyanskiy said, "Our country will carry out the projects without cooperation from foreign countries, including Japan." Because "the Communist Party has placed special priority on the Siberian development." "Nobody doubts that the goal will be achieved without participation of foreign interests," said the ambassador. "Anyway, the Soviet Union has no intention of pressing Japan to continue economic cooperation (in Siberia) with the Soviet Union," Polyanskiy said.

"But, you should recall the fact that any attempt to impose economic sanctions against the Soviet Union from political reasons had failed, and that there has been no country which made the best of such kind of action," added the envoy. Thus he said: "I hope that Japan will act on the matter on its own interests without giving ear to recommendations from some quarter (Washington). It is up to Japan to decide the future course of the bilateral relations, whether to promote friendly relations or not, he said. "I myself is optimistic (on this prospect)," Polyanskiy said.

SPEECH BY HEAD OF JAPAN DEFENSE AGENCY ASSAILED

LD041800 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0744 GMT 4 Mar 80 LD

["Fabrications"--TASS headline]

[Text] Tokyo, 4 March, TASS--Kichizo Hosoda, director general of the Japan Defense Agency, has made a speech laden with anti-Soviet fabrications and provocative challenges.

Junior and senior officers stationed in Tokyo's Nerima District had to stand at attention and listen to another fable of "the growth of Soviet military potential in those regions of the Far East adjacent to Japan," and to sickening recommendations as to what the proper reaction should be. According to the agency head, the "danger" could be "parried" only by "increasing vigilance with regard to the USSR's actions," and by a comprehensive strengthening of the fighting capability of the Japanese army and its interaction with U.S. forces on the basis of the security treaty.

K. Hosoda's speech resounded like only one note in the noisy anti-Soviet choir in which the voices of state officals are now being heard with increasing volume among the right-wingers of all hues. And they are conducted both by the Pentagon strategists--who are trying to transfer to their Far Eastern ally some of their functions as world policeman--and by the Japanese military-industrial complex, which yearns for new superprofits.

The present government's "quick reaction" to Pentagon soliciting beats all previous records. All it needed was a hint dropped on the banks of the Potomac regarding a blockade by the Japanese fleet "in the event of an emergency" in the La Perouse, Tsugaru and Korea straits for Tokyo to take the decision to build an enormous stock of sea mines and torpedoes for this purpose in the town of Hachinohe in the north of Honshu Island. This will cost the taxpayer 1 billion yen. H. Brown, the head of the U.S. Defense Department, needed only to broach the subject of a possible movement of U.S. Marines from Okinawa to the Persian Gulf for those in the Japanese capital to see fit to forget that the security treaty itself requires preliminary mutual consultation in such cases. If the United States wants to expand the framework of the treaty to involve Japan in the defense of its interests in the Near and Middle East, then by all means do. The latest gift to Washington, YOMIURI reports, is to be a decision by the Japanese Government to double its spending on maintaining American military bases on the territory of the country. In addition it has already confirmed a record allocation for military requirements of 2.23 trillion yen.

VLADIMIR SVETOV: JAPANESE MILITARY TRAINING OMINOUS

LD021532 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 2 Mar 80 LD

[Vladimir Svetov report from Japan]

[Text] A report from the Japanese air force training ground in the Aomori Perfecture: in progress are missile strikes and air bombardment of ground targets. Japanese airmen are destroying with their bombs and missiles not only targets but also the fundamental law of the country, which forbids Japan to have an army and to conduct wars. But this is no longer training. These are combat orders [boyevoye zadaniye].

A flight of fighter planes is taking off from the base at Aomori in order to patrol, as the commander puts it, Japanese air boundaries. At the same time, he is pointing to a map which shows not Japanese but Soviet borders. The patrol area is close to the Soviet border. The abundance of English words in the Japanese military language is symbolic. Japanese Defense Forces, as the army is called here, are in fact subordinate to American Armed Forces. On the basis of the Japanese-American security treaty the Japanese army is given, in the Pentagon's strategic planning, the role of executor of the American strategists' aggressive plans. The Japanese navy and its air arm took part in the exercise Pacific ring, together with the United States, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. Now efforts are being made to involve Japan in the global strategy of the NATO and ANZUS military blocs. That's why, on the training grounds of the Japanese air force in the Aomori Prefecture, missiles and bombs are bursting from morning till deep into the night.

However, Japanese workers are aware of what is behind the fierce anti-Soviet campaign that has been unleashed in the country. Not the threat from the north, the fabricated pretext under which Japanese armed forces are being trained in combat conditions, but the threat of a rebirth of militarism has descended on Japan. That's why nowadays in Japan antiwar slogans appear at any demonstration. Down with the rise in prices! reads one poster. Down with the rise of the armed forces! they shout in unison. [words indistinct]. During the last 10 years the military expenditure of Japan has increased seven-fold, and during the same period prices have risen three-fold. [loud shouting]

VARIATIONS TO DOLGIKH SPEECH ON AFGHANISTAN AT JCP CONGRESS

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 29 February 1980 on page 4 carries a version of the Dolgikh speech containing the following variations to the item entitled "Dolgikh Discusses Afghanistan at JCP Congress" published on pages C 1 and C 2 of the Northeast Asia section of the 29 February SOVIET UNION DAILY REPORT:

Page C 1, insert after fourth paragraph, the three following paragraphs:

The USSR advocates good neighborliness and cooperation on mutually advantageous terms with Japan and the development of friendly contacts between the Soviet and Japanese peoples. We have not had and do not have any other designs.

The CPSU is wholly in solidarity with the Japanese communists' consistent struggle to insure that Japan develops as a peace-loving neutral country with friendly relations with all its neighbors. We are sure that the ideas of development along the path of peace, the ideas of good neighborliness with the Soviet Union, have deep roots in Japan and that the progressive forces' struggle for their implementation will always be waged with unremitting vigor.

Speaking of the Soviet people's lives and affairs, the speaker noted that the current year is taking its course in the country in accordance with the slogan of providing a fitting greeting for the 110th anniversary of V.I. Lenin's birth. The CPSU and the people are marching steadily along the path indicated by the great Lenin. The Soviet people's heroic labor in implementing Lenin's ideas in our country have led to the building of a developed socialist society. The CPSU consistently implements in practice its program slogan: Everything for the sake of man, for the welfare of man. The party's constant attention is focused on the further development of socialist democracy and on insuring the working people's broad participation in the management of state and public affairs.

Page C 1, fifth paragraph, line two make read: ... delegation said that the USSR unswervingly pursues Lenin's policy of peace and advocates the consolidation of the peoples' security, broad international cooperation, and the implementation of the principles of peaceful coexistence among states with different social systems. The most important....

Page C 1, sixth paragraph, line one make read: The speaker noted that the United States....

Page C 2, third paragraph, last line add the following sentence: The Soviet people resolutely condemn these provocative actions and imperialism's attempts to use the events in Afghanistan to wreck the cause of detente and cancel out international efforts to reduce the danger of world war, strengthenpeace and limit the arms race--in other words, to hinder the implementation of the vital aspirations of all mankind.

Page C 2, last paragraph, first line omit: ...V.I. Dolgikh emphasized...

Page C 2, after the last paragraph, add the three following paragraphs:

Soviet communists, V.I. Dolgikh said in conclusion, advocate the broadest and closest international cooperation and solidarity with the Japanese communists on the basis of the principles of Marxism-Leninism while strictly observing the equality and independence of each party, noninterference in each other's internal affairs, and respect for the freedom to choose different paths in the struggle for socialism and also while building socialism and communism. The accords reached at the Moscow talks open up broad opportunities for expanding and intensifying fraternal relations between our two parties.

On the same day the CPSU delegation headed by V.I. Dolgikh visited the Tokyo JCP committee. During the comradely talk which took place T. Nakajima, member of the JCP Central Committee and deputy chairman of the Tokyo party committee, familiarized the delegation with the structure and activity of the capital's party organization.

The head of the CPSU delegation conveyed fraternal greetings to the Tokyo communists from the Soviet communists and wished them further successes in the activity of the capital's JCP organization. He presented the Tokyo party organization with gift in the form of a sculpture of V.I. Lenin.

CPSU'S DOLGIKH RETURNS FROM JCP CONGRESS

LD042328 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2004 GMT 4 Mar 80 LD

[Text] The CPSU delegation led by Dolgikh, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has returned from Tokyo to Moscow. The delegation attended the special congress of the Japanese Communist Party at the invitation of Japanese communists.

NEUTRALITY PROPOSAL 'AIMED AT OVERTHROWING' AFGHAN GOVERNMENT

LD041424 Moscow World Service in English 1300 GMT 4 Mar 80 LD

[Political Observer Farid Seyful-Mulyukov Commentary]

[Text] Now that the Afghan people are fighting hard against the hirelings of the imperialists, certain Western countries are talking about the idea for the neutrality of Afghanistan. The idea has been suggested by the British foreign secretary, Lord Carrington, who along with Zbigniew Brzezinski and the Chinese foreign minister, Huang Hua, visited Pakistan and actually (?led) matters to the formation of a united anti-Afghan front.

Hardly had the idea about the neutrality of Afghanistan appeared when it was immediately supported by President Carter who expressed readiness to guarantee such neutrality. And all that is being done without the consent of the lawful Government of Afghanistan and even without asking how it feels about it. And many Western countries, including the United States and Britain, have diplomatic relations with Afghanistan. This idea is actually aimed at overthrowing the democratic regime in Kabul and establishing practices there that are to the liking of the imperialists.

Washington and other Western powers demand the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan which were introduced there under the Soviet-Afghan friendship treaty for the sole purpose of helping that neighboring country to defend itself from outside aggression. When addressing his electorate recently, President Leonid Brezhnev said the Soviet Union would withdraw its military contingents from Afghanistan as soon as the reasons which prompted their presence there no longer existed and when the Afghan Government considers that presence no longer necessary. President Brezhnev also stated very definitely that the Soviet Union would be ready to begin the withdrawal of its troops as soon as all forms of outright interference aimed against the Government and the people of Afghanistan are ended fully.

Let the United States, together with Afghanistan's neighbors, guarantee that, said the Soviet leader, and then there will be no need for Soviet military assistance.

The latest statement made by the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan contains a very important point. It says that the limited contingent of Soviet troops will remain on the territory of Afghanistan until an end is put once for all to all the schemes of the regional reactionaries and the imperialists against the security and territorial integrity of the country. The revolutionary people of Afghanistan will not allow anyone to take provocatively so-called decisions on those issues, ignoring the will of the independent people of Afghanistan and their Government.

OPARIN REPORTS AFGHAN 'PATRIOTS' REBUFFING 'PROVOCATIONS'

LD041633 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 1 Mar 80 p 3 LD

[Dispatch telephoned by special correspondent O. Oparin under the rubric 'Kabul Reportage': "Guarding the Revolution"]

[Excerpts] Only 2 days ago Kabul was immersed in mist and sleet. This was followed by a heavy snowfall and I found myself recalling the saying: "February is the time for snowstorms." But mists and snowstorms do not last long here and today the snow-white spurs of the Hindu Kush and the entire city are bathed in bright sunshine.

The weather is back to normal and so too life in the capital is getting back to normal. The streets of this vast city are busy, enterprises and establishments are at work, banks and stores are open, movie theaters are full of spectators and the mosques are functioning.

I can see a group of people crowding around a stand showing the latest newspapers and local BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY reports. A literate person is reading aloud to those around him reports on the latest events. More and more details are becoming known of the abortive counterrevolutionary conspiracy. More caches of U.S., Israeli and Chinese small arms, smuggled in from Pakistan, have been found. A large number of homemade bombs and Molotov cocktails have been seized....

Many facts are currently emerging which provide evidence that in its antipopular acts the counterrevolution stopped at nothing. Here are just a few examples. Yesterday the people's militia returned more than a hundred children to their parents which the mercenaries had used basely for their own ends. Hiding behind these 12- and 14-year old children and brandishing weapons, the counterrevolutionaries and bandits felt safe during the days of the disturbances. They know that members of patriotic detachments, the people's militia or soldiers would not risk children's lives in an attempt to disarm and arrest the hirelings. How can one fail to recall Hitler's punitive forces.

Here is another example. The revolutionary authorities detained a number of counterrevolutionaries with forged passports issued to purportedly "Indian citizens." These "foreigners" provoked the population into an antigovernment demonstrations and persuaded traders to close their stores. The aim of this latest vile act boiled down to trying to set Afghans at loggerheads with friendly India.

Blatant ideological sabotage is also continuing. In particular, subversive Maoist literature of various kinds is being sent from China via Pakistan.

But all these intrigues and provocations by the mercenaries are encountering resolute rebuffs by the patriots. Revolutionary activists and Kabuls' working population are taking prompt and uncompromising measures against those who are trying to disrupt normal life in the capital and in the country. Armed detachments of members of the People's Democratic Party [PDPA] and of patriotic volunteers are standing guard over enterprises and establishments, banks and educational institutions. Requests by Kabul residents to the authorities for protection from counterrevolutionaries and bandits have become more frequent. People are reporting where the bandits are sheltering, where they are domiciled and where they keep their weapons.

...I was in the small office of comrade (Shakhbal), chairman of the Central Council of Afghan Workers Unions having a conversation, when a group of workers came in. They were representatives of one of Kabul's largest enterprises--the (Dzhangalak) truck repair plant. We made each other's acquaintance.

I learned that the plant employs 1260 workers, 1180 of whom are union members. This was highly significant. It transpired that on their own initiative the workers in this enterprise have created armed combat detachments--the prototype of the workers' guard. These detachments guard their enterprise and fearlessly assist the people's militia to disarm counterrevolutionaries and bandits and to expose the various tales and rumors being spread by provocateurs. The number of such groups (which consist entirely of volunteers) is increasing daily.

A conversation ensued about current events: "The Government of our Democratic Republic and the PDPA are doing a great deal to make life easier for our people. This infuriates the enemies of the Afghan revolution, worker (Abdol Samad Tudei) said. "Counterrevolutionary stooges together with common criminals tried to provoke mass riots in Kabul. But we know that they were acting on orders from abroad. World reaction is providing them with weapons and giving them generous sums of money with which to bribe unstable people. But we are rebuffing them and will not let them stop us from building a new life, living in peace and raising our children. Afghanistan's working class is small in terms of numbers but our strength lies in our cohesion around the PDPA."

Joiner (Mohammed Asef Khoshman) entered the conversation: "At present various hostile radio broadcasts and the counterrevolution in its appeals and leaflets are telling a lot of lies about 'Soviet troops' in Afghanistan. They are wasting their time however: We know that the Soviets are here at the request of our government. They are helping us to defend the gains of the April revolution. But that is not all. To my personal knowledge Soviet soldiers are helping the population to repair and to build houses and agricultural equipment."

I asked one of them whether they were familiar with Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's election address. "Yes, Afghan radio and television broadcast the entire speech with several repeats in the form of summaries, fitter (Aziz Dzhuya) said. "We are now trying to bring it to the attention of as many people as possible."

"Comrade Brezhnev was right," plant section chief (Dzhanan Merkhel) said, "when he spoke about the United States demanding the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan in order to go on doing its dirty work through its stooges and hirelings and in order to interfere in our internal affairs with the help of counterrevolutionaries and a network of agents. We are well aware of this. Whenever a cache of weapons is discovered they are sure to be either U.S., British or Chinese. Just recently there was a television program showing those who smuggle arms here from Pakistan. They described how they are taught how to handle weapons, foment disturbances and how to kill. They are taught how to do so by U.S. and Chinese instructors."

"Blackmail, lies, provocations and atrocities--these are the methods used by imperialist agents and propaganda against revolutionary Afghanistan," he contined. "Washington and U.S. imperialism and its henchmen want to arrange for the same thing to happen in Afghanistan as happened in Chile--to drown the revolution in blood. But they will not succeed. They will not succeed in intimidating our freedom-loving people."

The impromptu press conference came to an end. Many of those who attended it had to relieve their coworkers; others, carrying weapons, had to guard the plant. These armed worker detachments are defending the gains of the April revolution.

CORRESPONDENTS COMMENT ON AFGHAN VISIT, U.S. INTERFERENCE

LD041840 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1140 GMT 4 Mar 80 LD

["Topical Problems of International Life" program featuring Radio Moscow special correspondents Vadim Kassis and Vladimir Nakoryakov]

[Excerpts] [Announcer] On 29 January we broadcast reportage from Kabul which was of great interest to radio listeners.

Several days ago the journalists returned to Moscow and we asked them to share their impressions of their trip. At the microphone we have Vadim Kassis and Vladimir Nakoryakov:

[Kassis] Good day, comrades. Both Vladimir Nikolayevich and I at various times and for various reasons have had the opportunity to visit Afghanistan. My colleague, for instance, has visited this friendly country seven times. We witnessed the commissioning of many installations which the Afghan people were building with the assistance of the Soviet Union. We attended the signing of important Soviet-Afghan documents confirming our cooperation in the economic sphere. Finally we met and talked with many Afghans who were given the opportunity to acquire a new life by the April 1978 revolution.

[Nakoryakov] But this revolution did not suit everyone. Those from whom the revolution removed privileges began to stir--landowners, feudal lords and political speculators. Internal reaction quickly found a common language with the forces of external reaction, with those who have been dreaming for a long time of turning Afghanistan back to the dark ages of monarchy and feudalism. The U.S. special services were the first to pay heed to the border zone. They firmly recalled that the British colonizers on more than one occasion conducted revolts from precisely the so-called tribal belt--revolts which the British colonizers themselves provoked on Afghan territory.

[Kassis] We remember that this was the uprising of the Khost tribes in 1924 and the Bacha-e Saqao mutiny at the end of 1928. Incidentally, the latter mutiny, instigated by the British, was conducted from what is today Pakistani territory by the well-known adventurer and employee of the British intelligence service, Colonel Lawrence of Arabia.

[Nakoryakov] We visited Khost quite recently exactly when Brzezinski, national security assistant to the U.S. President, was threatening the Afghans with a machinegun from Pakistani territory. In addition, Brzezinski was urging the mutineers in the name of Allah to topple the people's government of the young republic.

[Kassis] By the way, before he arrived in a so-called refugee camp the refugees had their weapons taken away from them just in case.

[Nakoryakov] It must be explained here why the contemporary Lawrence turned up precisely in the tribal belt. The point is that at the end of the last century a so-called Durand line was drawn on the world map. It separated the former British India and Afghanistan. But at the same time it divided the territory populated by related Pushtun tribes. They appeared on both sides of the new border. This is why the line was of a symbolic character. The tribes did not come under the authority of the governments of either Afghanistan or Pakistan. Negotiations had to be conducted with them to achieve cooperation. This is why there is a post of minister of frontier affairs and tribal territories in the cabinet of ministers of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

There are various tribes. These tribes include many which are warlike, in which they all handle weapons from childhood. Within such tribes there exists unquestioning subordination to chiefs, fathers and councils of elders. Previously the British colonizers would often bribe tribal chiefs. Now the Americans have inherited this method.

[Kassis] This is precisely what also happened in Paktia Province, which is inhabited by 22 tribes, External reaction is trying to exert pressure on certain of them. They have for all intents and purposes been bribed by the U.S. special services. We were told in the 25th Afghan Infantry Division that recently two Americans visited these areas, as well as several emissaries from various groups of counterrevolutionary rabble. They delivered large sums of money, consignments of modern weapons, food, ammunition and many leaflets. In return for this they demanded that the chiefs and elders promise that they will sabotage the people's power.

[Nakoryakov] What is more, these illiterate, deeply religious and deceived people are employed to cause obstructions on the roads, to lay mines in mountain passages, to carry out physical reprisals against every unknown person who appears in their territory and to carry out sabotage against peaceful tribes--for instance, the Tani. There is a similar situation in other border provinces--Nangarhar, Kunar and Badakhshan--where the Beijing extremists are in charge of activities of armed bands penetrating Afghan territory.

[Kassis] Incidentally, there have been reports on more than one occasion from Badakhshan about the routing of such bands. Once we were shown highly interesting documents. Found on two prisoners who were members of a routed band were photographs in which these two Afghans were dressed in Chinese military uniforms.

During interrogation the bandits said that the photographs were taken at one of the special bases in the Chinese Province of Xinjiang where they were being trained.

[Nakoryakov] Vadim Ilich, at this juncture I would like to quote the Kabul NEW TIMES. Recently it noted that the United States, China and Pakistan have unleashed an undeclared war against Afghanistan. Terrorists and bandits trained by China and the United States carry out attacks on towns and villages, commit atrocities and murder people and set fire to schools and whole villages. Terrorist groups destroy harvests in border areas. A few days ago the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, with the most active support of the popular masses, foiled yet another sabotage attempt in Kabul and other towns of the country. While arresting a large group of saboteurs trained on Pakistani territory the security organs captured not only American and Chinese-made weapons, explosives, radio stations, large sums of money but also dozens of Western spies and agents-provocateur. These included Robert Lee, an agent of the Central Intelligence Agency.

[Kassis] Vladimir Nikolayevich, you remember we earlier witnessed a so to speak dress rehearsal of these disturbances in Kabul. Once in the night we were awakened by the sirens of fire engines. Next to our hotel merchants' stalls were ablaze. The fire destroyed several dozen small shops--dukans. Hundreds of people were ruined. What is the purpose of such acts of sabotage? To instill panic among the people, the dissatisfaction of the so-called bazaar with the existing situation, to exacerbate internal problems and to provoke fear of the future.

[Nakoryakov] In his pre-election speech in the Bauman Constituency Leonid Ilich Brezhnev fully exposed the imperialist plot against the Afghan people. By publicly discussing the neutralization of Afghanistan, issuing an ultimatum to this sovereign country over a deadline for withdrawing Soviet military contingents invited by the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and substituting them with mythical Muslim peacekeeping forces, the United States is continuing to escalate sabotage against this country.

[Kassis] It must be said that the recent sabotage attempt in Kabul is one of the relapses in the undeclared war against Afghanistan. As is well known, the U.S. President has demanded that all foreign troops be withdrawn from Afghanistan by 20 February. BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY, commented on this ultimatum as follows: The U.S. President has stated that if by 20 February what suits him has not been done, then new plans of the Central Intelligence Agency will be launched. The disorders carried out in Kabul after 20 February are directly connected with the date with which the United States is threatening Afghanistan.

[Nakoryakov] As you can see, Washington's interference in the internal affairs of the young republic is taking on an increasingly open nature. It is surprising that in this the U.S. special services are trying to exploit religion for their dirty ends. After the full collapse of American policy in Iran secret service agents and spies of all shades have not only set about studying the Koran and the statutes of the Shar'ia but also interpreting them to fit circumstances. For instance, the American press calls Iranian religious figures fanatics and obscurants and calls the reactionary Afghan mullahs, who head counterrevolutionary groups on the territory of Pakistan, strugglers for democracy.

[Kassis] Yes, in the 6 weeks that we spent in Afghanistan we became convinced that the new government has deep respect for Islam and defends the traditions and customs of the nationalities and tribes inhabiting the country. This is why the instigators of acts of sabotage are in a hurry. They understand that time is working against them. It is no coincidence that more and more local men of religion are supporting the democratic changes aimed at improving the life of their parishioners.

[Nakoryakov] The U.S. services continue to hatch the wildest plans. Thus, for instance, it has become known that those over the ocean have already divided Afghanistan. The eastern and southern parts of the country are to become a sphere of influence of Pakistan and the north and northeastern parts are to become vassals of China. In the central part of the state it is planned to create a bloody terrorist regime which will serve as a base for subversive operations against the revolution in Iran and other national liberation movements in this region. This is how Washington would like to settle the Afghan question.

[Kassis] Take notice of how the American, Chinese and a part of the Western propaganda have presented news about disturbances in Kabul unleashed by the counterrevolution on 21 February. How many versions were invented: How many sensations were fabricated: Various radio stations--as well as REUTER and AFP--broadcast the world over that, for instance, Keshtmand, member of the Politburo of Afghanistan's People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee, vice president of Afghanistan's Revolutionary Council, allegedly had been wounded in a skirmish and that he subsequently died. Personally I was particularly struck by this report because several days prior to these events I, together with Keshtmand, was on a regular Aeroflot flight to Moscow where he intended to undergo treatment. Keshtmand was freed from Amin's Pol-e Charkhi prison in our presence. The lengthy incarceration in these terrible torture chambers could not but take its toll on the health of any man.

[Nakoryakov] It is also known that Keshtmand will very soon return home. But, Vadim Borisovich, I would like to mention yet another falsehood.

Recently Soviet television viewers have seen on their screens Barialay, member of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan. Concerning him, Western propaganda has repeatedly reported that he was also wounded in a skirmish which broke out while the Revolutionary Council was in session. One would like to know which Western correspondents were invited to such sessions.

[Kassis] Well, Western journalists did not even think to make apologies, having learned that they had been completely exposed. Quite simply, they passed over it in silence.

[Nakoryakov] Incidentally, in Kabul we witnessed the expulsion by the Government of Afghanistan of a group of American correspondents who were particularly inventive regarding slander. In front of our very eyes, they worked on the other side of journalism, inventing falsehoods over the bar in the Intercontinental Hotel. Remember what extreme clamor was raised by these bar-scribblers, whose deepest sensibilities were offended: But, judging by the latest falsehoods, they still have a considerable number of faithful followers left in Kabul.

[Kassis] As ancient Eastern wisdom has it, the dog barks but the caravan goes on. Kabul's population gave a resolute rebuff to all sorties by provocateurs and terrorists. Reaction's plans to wreck the Kabul bazaar collapsed--to wreck, not in the literal sense of the word, but to win over the middle strata of city dwellers. It is precisely they who were being counted on. After all, inside this old Eastern bazaar there live elements who are not always upright, but downright declasse. Some of them make their living from contraband; it is easy to hire others to carry out any assignments, even quite dubious ones. However, even these people saw through and understood the black designs of provocateurs and saboteurs.

[Nakoryakov] We witnessed the efforts made by the leadership of Afghanistan's People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and by the Revolutionary Council headed by Babrak Karmal to normalize the whole of the country's sociopolitical life, to stabilize the economy. There is no doubt that difficulties do exist. However, they can be overcome. The government has now focused attention on sowing all fields and arable land, including the land of the landowners who fled. Now the government has called on the peasants to till these lands. In case their deceived owners return home, land allotments will be returned to them.

[Kassis] Well, in addition forces which actively impede democratic transformations are still to be found in Afghanistan. In a number of provinces armed bands hamper supplies of essential goods to the towns, plundering caravans and trucks carrying cargo. That is why detachments of volunteers to fight against criminals are being set up in the country. They take under their protection roads, bridges, crossings, convoy the transport. There is no doubt that the Afghan people will cope with their internal difficulties. The tested friend--the Soviet Union and other friendly countries--will help it in this.

[Nakoryakov] Babrak Karmal, the head of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, spoke repeatedly about this. He demanded immediate liquidation of bases and camps where Chinese, American, Egyptian, Pakistani, British and Israeli instructors train saboteurs, terrorists, bandits and killers.

[Nakoryakov] At present, wider and wider circles of the world public are beginning to understand the real state of affairs in Afghanistan and the legitimate right of that country to collective defense against aggression. Today the limited contingent of the Soviet troops serves as the guarantor of Afghanistan's integrity, its sovereignty and independence. The Soviet Union, as distinct from imperialist forces, does not intend to partition the territory of its southern neighbor into spheres of influence, as the United States, China and Pakistan would like to do. As Comrade Brezhnev stated outright: We will be ready to start withdrawal of our troops as soon as all forms of interference from without, directed against the Government and people of Afghanistan, have ceased.

AFGHAN FOREIGN MINISTRY ISSUES STATEMENTS ON VIOLATIONS OF AIRSPACE

LD041522 Moscow TASS in English 1450 GMT 4 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Kabul, March 4, TASS--The Foreign Ministry of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan has rejected the report of Radio Tehran alleging that an Afghan plane violated Iran's air space the other day. Competent bodies of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan state that not a single Afghan plane intruded into Iran's air space. The statement stresses that those who have always tried to undermine the relations of friendship between the two countries took a hand in fabricating this instigatory report.

Another statement of Afghanistan's Foreign Ministry says that Pakistani military planes violated Afghanistan's air space in Konarha Province. The statement points out that the Pakistani Government should restrain itself from heightening tensions in the region. If such actions recur, full responsibility for this will rest with the Pakistani authorities.

AFGHAN OFFICIAL BARIALAY SCORES 'IMPERIALIST POWERS'

LD042102 Moscow TASS in English 1815 GMT 4 Mar 80 LD

[Correspondent Y. Pichugin report]

[Text] Addis Ababa, March 4, TASS--"All progressive forces in the world, (?including those) who treasure the ideals of peace view the Afghan revolution as a logical result (?of) historical development, as an inalienable part of tne international revolutionary movement. It patently shows that cardinal change in the alignment of forces in the world arena in favour of democracy, peace and socialism", the TASS correspondent was told by member of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, member of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan Mahmoud Barialay who attended here a session of the Bureau of the Presidium of the World Peace Council.

"At the same time", he stressed, "the events in Afghanistan clearly exposed one criminal policy of the imperialist powers and the Beijing hegemonists in respect of national liberation movements".

American imperialism, Mahmoud Barialay said: is trying to exploit the obtaining situation. Facts irrefutably show that Washington has long resorted to actions to undermine the relaxation of international tension. As to the events in Afghanistan, they were used only as a pretext for openly proclaiming such a policy. "Had Afghanistan not existed, the forces of imperialism would have found some other pretext", Mahmoud Barialay stressed. He added further that the role of world public opinion, of all progressive forces was growing in these conditions in defending the great ideals of peace and democracy and in organizing a rebuff to imperialism's intrigues.

AFGHAN NEUTRALIZATION 'POLITICAL DECORATION' MASKING PLOT

LD031603 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 2 Mar 80 p 5 LD

[Nikolay Polyanov article under the rubric "Events and Judgments": "Shuttle Diplomacy"]

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State C. Vance had not even had time, 10 days ago, to leave the foggy shores of Europe before the Atlanticists flung themselves utterly into turbulent diplomatic activity. Premiers rushed to visit one another. Ministers hardly had time to unpack their suitcases before setting off again. Experts were rushed off their feet: Urgent conferences were taking place in first one West European capital, then another. This is the second straight week that the Atlantic leaders have been devoting themselves to so-called "shuttle diplomacy", proclaiming in the wake of their Washington bosses that they are "very worried" by events in Afghanistan. But of course those events, frankly speaking, ought to be none of their business....

But what can you do! After the U.S. secretary of state's lightning tour of West Europe the Atlanticists were suddenly struck by wanderlust. Federal Chancellor Helmut Schmidt traveled from the banks of the Rhine to the banks of the Thames--visiting Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the British prime minister. He had scarcely returned home before Bonn began preparing to greet Lord Carrington, the British foreign secretary. However, first a guest arrived from Madrid, not London--Spanish Prime Minister Adolfo Suarez. As he came down the aircraft gangway at the airport of the Rhine capital he almost bumped into Italian Foreign Minister Attillio Ruffini, who was leaving Bonn for Copenhagen. Meanwhile the Bonn hosts were rolling out the carpet for another visitor--this time from Saudi Arabia: Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal was announcing his arrival in West Europe.

Let us not hide the fact: The political ballyhoo staged in the West European capitals has one substandial flaw from Washington's viewpoint--France is not participating. Its leaders have long since intimated that they have no intention of following the unasked exhortations from the other side of the Atlantic and refuse to play the role of America's swordbearer in the latter's implementation of its antidetente strategy. Nor do certain other partners altogether suit Washington: They have little enthusiasm, are not rushing to echo what the American hegemonists say and are in no hurry to strike blows against the good European initiatives inherited from the seventies.

However, Washington has succeeded in some things. For instance, by means of threats, pressure and blatant demands for "solidarity" from the NATO entente it has succeeded in creating a kind of political screen under cover of which it is more convenient to implement long-planned adventures. It has been "weaving" this screen by means of "shuttle diplomacy" for almost 2 weeks now. It is creating the semblance of incredible Western concern at events in Afghanistan, is repeating in every possible way the fantasy about a "Russian invasion" of that distant South Asian country and is alluding in a sinister whisper to the possibility of other "invasions"--of Iran or Pakistan. Meanwhile...

Meanwhile the American and Beijing special services are spurring on the aggressive forces sent into Afghanistan. A few days ago they even attempted to organize a counterrevolutionary putsch in Kabul.

Everyone was struck by the fact that the pogroms in Kabul and the peak of the "shuttle diplomacy" were timed to coincide with 20 February, when the so-called "Carter ultimatum" on the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Afghanistan expired. [paragraph continues]

In accordance with the new Washington fashion a multifaceted scenario had been prepared. It included armed provocations against the lawful Government of Afghanistan, militarist excesses by the Atlanticists (on NATO's northern flank, for example), the buildup of subversive actions on a global scale and attempts to wreck the Moscow Olympics. It is scarcely accidental that in recent days U.S. Defense Secretary H. Brown has ordered the immediate formation of the "quick reaction corps"; that the CIA, as the Washington POST admitted, has stepped up weapons supplies to saboteurs being dispatched to Afghanistan; that talks have begun with Portugal, Spain, Egypt, Israel and Saudi Arabia to obtain the right for American military aircraft to fly over the territories of these countries on the way to the Persian Gulf; and that at this very moment desperate efforts are being made to drag Turkey into the aggressive NATO orbit--under pressure from Washington its West European partners have agreed to spend around $1 billion on this.

As we can see, it is all pretty cleverly thought out: Washington vociferously demands that the Soviet Union abandon military assistance to Afghanistan, the partners in the Atlantic alliance kick up a fuss about "Afghan neutralization," the ingenuous man-in-the-street in the West is moved by his leaders' perspicacity, and under cover of these political decorations the threats of a plot against peace and for a return to cold war are woven. However, as time passes the public is beginning to understand things better. It is arriving at the conclusion that if Washington and the other Atlantic capitals want a normalization of the situation in Southern Asia the way to this has long been open, they only have to step onto it. "I want to state quite clearly," Leonid Ilich Brezhnev stressed, "we will be ready to start withdrawing our forces as soon as all forms of outside interference against the Afghan Government and people cease. Let the United States, together with Afghanistan's neighbors, guarantee this and then the need for Soviet military assistance will cease to exist."

Let them guarantee it! No "shuttle diplomacy" will help them avoid clearly answering the demand of the times--halt all forms of outside interference in the Afghan people's internal affairs. Those people in the West who are reluctant to draw the requisite conclusions from this have only themselves to blame.

NEPESOV COMMENTS ON ANNIVERSARY OF USSR-AFGHAN RELATIONS

LD031203 Moscow SOTISALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 28 Feb 80 p 3 LD

[Article by international observer M. Nepesov: "The Deep Roots of Good Neighborliness"]

[Text] The 59th anniversary of the establishment of friendly relations between the Soviet country and Afghanistan falls on 28 February.

The traditions of good neighborliness and friendliness that exist between our countries were laid down on paper for the first time in the friendship treaty signed in Moscow in 1921. This period was equally difficult for both countries. Some 14 foreign powers were carrying out intervention against us and the Afghan people were under the threat of British occupation. Under these conditions the friendly cooperation between the young Soviet republic and the independent Afghan state offered, as V.I. Lenin noted, "broad scope for mutual assistance against any encroachment by foreign predators on other people's freedom and other people's property." Vladimir Ilich maintained: "Russia will always be the number one friend of the high Afghan state for the good of both peoples."

Eye-witness accounts have demonstrated that the contacts between Afghanistan, struggling for its freedom, and Soviet Russia played a truly revolutionizing role in the development of the national liberation movement in Asia. One of V.I. Lenin's associates, Nariman Narimanov wrote, looking back on those days: "The Afghan ambassador came to beautiful Moscow, talked with Comrade Lenin and made it known to his government that the words of the Soviet Government head to the peoples of the East were not empty words and that Lenin would do all he could to free Afghanistan from Britain's colonial policy."

Now Afghanistan has with it not a young Soviet Russia drained by civil war and imperialist intervention but a powerful socialist power--the USSR. Together with the other fraternal countries, it is pursuing a foreign policy which corresponds to the vital interests of the vast majority of the world population. When intervention from Pakistani territory, directed by the Americans and Chinese, became so great as to threaten the very existence of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan (DRA), its Government, guided by Article 4 of the Soviet-Afghan treaty on friendship, good neighborliness and cooperation signed on 5 December 1978, the fourth of its kind, made an urgent request to the USSR for military assistance. We had to respond to the request from the Government of friendly Afghanistan. "To act otherwise," Comrade L.I. Brezhnev said in reply to the PRAVDA correspondent's questions, "would have been to let imperialism tear Afghanistan apart and allow the aggressive forces to repeat here what they managed to do, for instance, in Chile, where the people's freedom was drowned in blood. To do otherwise would have meant looking on passively while a hotbed of a serious threat to the security of the Soviet state appeared on our southern border."

It is known, however, that for the last 60 years the Soviet-Afghan border has been a border of friendship. Immediately after the signing of the first treaty the word "Shuravi," meaning "Soviet," came into widespread use in Afghanistan. "Shuravi" were the workers and engineers who came in the initial years of the USSR's existence to construct cotton ginning plants and other industrial projects in Afghanistan. Also "Shuravi" were their descendants who later helped the Afghans to construct elevators and power stations, chemical fertilizer plants and a housing construction combine and discovered a large gas field.... In total 70 project of various kinds have been commissioned in Afghanistan with Soviet assistance. It is planned to create a further 60 new enterprises. For its part, Afghanistan supplies the Soviet Union with traditional export goods--citrus fruits, fruit juices, dried fruit, leather, carpets and so forth. These have now been joined by natural gas supplies. I should like to stress that Soviet-Afghan cooperation is being carried out on a mutually advantageous, balanced basis taking into account both countries' interests.

It is no exaggeration to say that Afghanistan is among the leading developing countries in terms of volume of cooperation with the USSR. It is a noteworthy fact that not only was the first friendship treaty signed with Afghanistan but in January 1954 an intergovernment agreement was concluded on giving Soviet economic assistance to this country, which was also the first document of its kind. Since then similar agreements have been signed with India, Burma, Indonesia and other developing countries.

If economic and trade cooperation between our countries is tangibly manifested in the industrial enterprises and power transmission lines and in the exchange of various goods, how can you measure the immense joy of yesterday's nomad who has learned to handle a powerful excavator!? [paragraph continues]

Throughout his training an experienced and strong "Shuravi" hand lay next to his on the machine's levers, painstakingly passing on the art of handling a complicated piece of machinery. Afghanistan now has its own truck and bulldozer drivers, drilling workers, electricians and workers in other spheres. Many of them cherish a certificate signed by a Soviet engineer, evidence of the holder's professional knowledge. Hundreds of young Afghans dream of obtaining a document of this kind.

Friendship and cooperation with the USSR has always been rated highly in Afghanistan. As Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and chairman of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the DRA, has noted, "our country and our people have a true and reliable friend in the shape of the great Soviet country on whose support we can always rely at a difficult moment."

All the 59 years that have elapsed since the signing of the treaty on the establishment of friendly relations between our country and Afghanistan confirm the correctness of these words.

PALESTINIAN DELEGATION VISITS AFGHANISTAN, SUPPORTS REVOLUTION

LD041840 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1735 GMT 4 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Kabul, March 4, TASS--The Kabul NEW TIMES has published a joint statement by the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA] and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] on a visit to Afghanistan by an official DFLP delegation. The delegation was received by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, chairman of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA].

The document says that during the meetings, which took place in an atmosphere of fraternity and mutual understanding, the Palestinian delegation expressed unwavering solidarity with the revolution in Afghanistan under the leadership of the PDPA and came out against the plots by American imperialism and its local, regional and international allies and agents.

On behalf of the PDPA Babrak Karmal declared the DRA's total solidarity with the Palestinian revolution in its struggle to implement the inalienable rights of the Palestinian Arabs and against the Camp David plot and the Washington-Tel Aviv-Cairo reactionary imperialist axis. He expressed his certainty in the inevitable ultimate victory of the Arab people of Palestine headed by its sole legitimate representative the PLO.

During their meetings the two sides resolutely condemned the malicious propaganda campaign being waged by imperialist and reactionary circles against the DRA and highly assessed the unselfish aid given to the Afghan revolution by the Soviet Union. This legitimate aid, the statement notes, was made available to Afghanistan by the Soviet Union on the basis of the treaty of friendship, good neighborliness and cooperation between the two countries.

The two sides exchanged opinions on questions connected with the international situation and stated their identity of views with regard to some of the most important contemporary events.

During their meetings the two sides confirmed the need to strengthen the solidarity of peoples who are subject to imperialist plots with the world's progressive and democratic forces and with the socialist camp led by the Soviet Union.

PAKISTAN'S WORDS, ACTIONS SEEN AT 'VARIANCE'

LD041114 Moscow TASS in English 0942 GMT 4 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Islamabad, March 4, TASS--It is known that the military regime of President Ziaul Haq banned any political activities in the country, including meetings and assemblies. The activities of political parties have been suspended. These bans, however, do not apply for some reason to the activity of Afghan hirelings that entrenched themselves in Pakistan's territory.

An organization which designates itself as an Islamic union for the liberation of Afghanistan, the union under the cover of which agents of the USA, China and local reaction operate, formed so-called revolutionary council and worked out a programme of joint actions. As the newspaper MUSLIM reports the programme is to be made public at a press conference in Rawalpindi soon.

This shows once again the true value of the numerous statements by official Pakistani spokesmen that Pakistan does not give support to mercenaries and will not allow anyone to use its territory for hostile actions against Afghanistan.

As is seen, their words and deeds are obviously at variance.

SHIKHMURADOV VILIFIES PAKISTANI PRESIDENT, SEES U.S. SUPPORT

LD050807 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 26 Feb 80 p 3 LD

[B. Shikhmuradov article under the rubric "Comments to the Point": "Morality in Two Dimensions"]

[Text] When, 4 years ago, J. Carter, a presidential candidate and a little-known farmer from Georgia, promised to make the "moral factor" the main principle of U.S. foreign policy, this embarrassed many habitues of the White House, State Department and Pentagon, not to mention the CIA. These calls had a painfully challenging ring with respect to the long history of U.S. international activity.

Time passed. J. Carter became the 39th U.S. President and history repeated itself for the umpteenth time. The "moral factor" remained an election slogan and U.S. foreign policy doctrine continued to be determined by gambling on reactionary dictatorships, provoking local and regional conflicts, plundering developing countries' national resources and interfering in the internal affairs of sovereign states. The recent events when, on at the personal initiative of the "moralist from Georgia," U.S. contacts and military-strategic cooperation were established with one of the most antipopular and antidemocratic of regimes--the military dictatorship of Gen Ziaul Haq in Pakistan--serve as one further confirmation of this.

Pakistan's military president lives in Rawalpindi in a large palace built back in colonial times for the British Army commander. General Zia behaves very much like the house's former owner. He is attended by servants in the same uniforms and turbans. From time to time the general likes to receive journalists, but not to impart to them his plans and concerns for the people's destiny but rather with a view to "popularizing" his own person.

"Forget, forget about the norms of freedom and democracy. What you call human rights, your demands for elections are luxuries we cannot afford," he told a group of Western journalists recently. "Elections are not a cure for Pakistan. Can you count on illiterate people being able to decide for themselves what is good for them and what is bad?" The cynicism of dictators is truly boundless.

Since the 5 July 1977 military coup through which Gen Ziaul Haq seized power, the Pakistani people have experienced upheavals caused by the authorities' tyranny, corruption in the civil service apparatus, police savagery and hypocrisy in the top leadership--upheavals more numerous than they have experienced in all of Pakistan's 32 difficult years of history. So the president's doubts about whether Pakistanis can understand what is good or bad for them are futile.

On coming to power, Gen Ziaul Haq solemnly promised that the military regime was a temporary measure designed to insure the speediest transition to the establishment of a just civilian system. He twice promised to hold parliamentary elections and twice cancelled them, "proceeding from the nation's supreme interests." It was evidently to the same end that any political activity in Pakistan was banned all political parties, working people's trade unions, youth organizations and cultural and artistic associations were outlawed, hundreds of progressive public figures, student leaders and journalists were thrown into prison and former Pakistani Prime Minister Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto was executed, despite the pleas for clemency which Ziaul Haq received from the leaders of almost all countries of the world.

Encountering an acute aggravation of the domestic political situation and growing dis dissatisfaction and indignation with his military government's policy, General Zia was alarmed. "However, even under these conditions the military leadership behaved as though it had some powerful patron," said an eminent Pakistani journalist now behind bars.

For a long time the name of this "powerful patron" remained "secret" all the more so since General Zia occasionally liked to emit a "sharp" anti-U.S. phrase like the one which, according to a WALL STREET JOURNAL correspondent, was blurted out by a Pakistani Army officer during the fire at the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad at the end of last year: "Despite this, we hope that America will return sometime and understand the way things are with us."

Evidently with a view to accelerating the process of "America's return," Ziaul Haw mounted an unprecedented subversive campaign against the neighboring Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and made Pakistani territory available for training and equipping subversive gangs of anti-Afghan elements, fueling tension throughout the South Asian region. This was the way out of the domestic policy impasse that President Ziaul Haq found. He began to match his overtly aggressive and provocative course with regard to the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan with a lying campaign about the "mortal threat to Pakistan's security from Afghanistan and the USSR." Here is what the Kabul NEW TIMES writes about this in its 10 February issue: "The regime's colossal economic difficulties and political isolation are knocking the ground from under Ziaul Haq's feet. He is raising a din over the so-called 'Afghan question' in order to distract his people's attention from the real evil."

America has returned. "To resist the Soviet Union, Jimmy Carter and his Washington administration are prepared to save from financial and political catastrophe one of the h harshest and most repressive regimes in Asia," the newspaper NATION notes. Let us be more precise: For the sake of its global strategic goals the U.S. administration is prepared to cooperate with any regime and on any terms. Having lost a stronghold for its policy as a result of the anti-shah revolution in Iran and having failed in its interference in the affairs of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, the United States is now seeking other strongholds in an attempt to "recover" Asia.

It is prepared to pay for these "emplacements" just as it paid Ziaul Haq for his zeal in anti-Afghan activity. It is no accident that Gen Ziaul Haq said during Z. Brzezinski's recent visit to Islamabad that he is prepared for any border clashes, since the Americans undertake to help Pakistan.

Today Gen Ziaul Haq feels better than ever. In a state of such pleasant excitement, he allowed himself the following reply to a question about the possible signing of a peace treaty with India: "No kind of pact on the renunciation of war, no nonaggression pact is even worth the paper it is written on." Concise and clear.

But ultimately it is not a case of General Zia, that mediocre dictator who does not even attempt to impart a respectable appearance to his actions. The crux of the matter lies in the dangerous maneuvering by President Carter who, in an attempt to make himself out as a "good guy", speaks hypocritically of human rights and of helping only those who observe them....

The election campaign is gathering momentum in the United States. The U.S. presidential candidates are beginning the fight for votes. It will be interesting to see what slogans J. Carter will use. The "moral factor" is no longer valid, "human rights' are no longer valid, nor are "peace and the people's security...."

PRAVDA REPORTS ON HIGHLIGHTS OF ARKHIPOV INDIA TOUR

LD050845 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Feb 80 p 5 LD

[TASS report: "Trip Completed"]

[text] Delhi, 28 February--The Soviet Government delegation headed by I.V. Arkhipov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, which is on a visit here at the in invitation of the Indian Government, has completed a tour of the country.

During the tour the delegation visited Bhilai, where it took part in the celebrations of the 25th anniversary of Soviet-Indian economic cooperation, and the construction site of the Vishakhapatnam plant in the State of Andhra Pradesh, southern India. This plant, which will have a capacity of 3 million tons of steel a year, will be the country's third largest metallurgical enterprise after the Bhilai and Bokaro combines.

Indian engineers and construction workers familiarized the Soviet guests in detail with the state of work on the installation ofthe giant metallurgical plant. In accordance with the tradition established at construction projects involving Soviet-Indian cooperation, the inauguration of a park of friendship was carried out in a festive atmosphere in Vishakhapatnam.

Address to Delhi Rally

LD050847 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Feb 80 p 5 LD

[TASS report: "Friendship Is Strengthening"]

[Text] Delhi, 28 February--A Soviet-Indian friendship meeting was held here today at the initiative of the Indian-Soviet cultural society. It was attended by (Sayed Mir Kasim), member of the Working Committee of India's ruling party, the Indian National Congress-Indira [INC-I], and vice president of the Indian-Soviet friendship society, members of parliament, eminent public figures and politicians and representatives of the Indian public.

I.V. Arkhipov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, the head of the Soviet Government delegation, who spoke at the meeting, conveyed to the Indian Government and people the most heartfelt congratulations and good wishes on the 25th anniversary of Soviet-Indian economic and technical cooperation from the Soviet people, the USSR Government and L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, personally.

Beginning in 1955 with the construction of the first section of the Bhilai metallurgical plant, Soviet-Indian cooperation continues to develop steadily in the two countries interests, the Soviet delegation head said. In the past 25 years it has not only expanded in terms of volume, great qualitative changes have also taken place. These qualitative changes and the need to expand our cooperation further in both countries' interests and to shift it onto a planned footing engendered, first, the intergovernment agreement signed in November 1973 during Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's visit and then the 14 March 1979 long-term program of economic, trade, scientific and technical cooperation between the USSR and India. Soviet and Indian organizations are now working on the implementation of this program's provisions.

The relations between our countries are based not on any transient factors but on the firm foundation of the long-term fundamental interests of our peoples and states and our common interest in insuring peace and security in the world.

The Soviet Union has always supported India at its most difficult times, including the period of the 1962 Chinese aggression, (Sayed Mir Kasim), member of the INC-I Working Committee and vice president of the Indian-Soviet friendship society, stated. The Soviet Union's selfless aid in India's industrialization, whose foundation was laid by J. Nehru, has enabled the country to lay the foundation of national might. Now that India's sovereignty and independence are threatened by the forces of imperialism, the Indian people see their historic mission in strengthening Indian-Soviet friendship.

The international atmosphere dictates the need to develop and strengthen Indian-Soviet political cooperation, N.K. Krishnan, secretary of the Communist Party of India National Council, stressed.

The USSR's fraternal, selfless aid has helped India to create a developed state sector-the basis of its economic might, (Kharkishen Singh Surdzhit), member of the Communist Party of India (Marxist), stated. Today U.S. imperialism is threatening the peace, security and sovereignty of India and all freedom-loving states.

The meeting in Delhi demonstrated the firmness and indissolubility of the ties of Soviet-Indian friendship.

Return to Moscow

LD050849 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 Mar 80 p 4 LD

[TASS report: "Delegation's Return"]

[Text] Delhi, 1 March--The Soviet Government delegation headed by I.V. Arkhipov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, which took part in the celebrations of the 25th anniversary of Soviet-Indian economic cooperation, left for home today. [paragraph continues]

It was seen off at the capital's airport by P.V. Narasimha Rao, India's minister of external affairs; P.K. Mukherjee, minister of commerce, steel and mines and civil supplies; I.K. Gujral, Indian ambassador to the USSR and other officials. The sendoff party also included Yu.M. Vorontsov, USSR ambassador to India.

The delegation arrived in Moscow the same day.

INDIAN-SOVIET PROTOCOL SIGNED ON SOVIET TECHNICAL AID

LD050918 Moscow TASS in English 0801 GMT 5 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Delhi, March 5, TASS--An Indian-Soviet protocol on Soviet technical aid to India in the construction of a reinforced concrete structures' plant in Gujarat has been signed here. The bulk of its products will be used in the construction of the Narmada canal, one of India's largest irrigation projects. The Narmada canal to be almost 500 kilometres long will enable the irrigation of 3.2 million hectares of arid land in Gujarat.

INDIRA GANDHI COMMENTS ON SOVIET ROLE IN AFGHANISTAN

LD031942 Moscow TASS in English 1755 GMT 3 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Paris, March 3, TASS--INDIRA Gandhi, prime minister of India, in an interview with the newspaper LE MATIN, stated: The present international situation is very complex. The West is inclined to accuse first of all the Soviet Union of what has taken place. One should say, however, that the West itself does not promote relaxation of tensions. It has given greater scope to its military preparations on a huge scale, the United States in the Indian Ocean, in particular. We do not want any foreign influence in the area.

One should yet to give [as received] thought to what has led to the Soviet troops' entry into Kabul, Indira Gandhi went on to say. Just as any other country, the USSR cannot remain indifferent since it considers that its national interests are at stake. Afghanistan is on the border of the Soviet Union. The rebels were being armed by Pakistan. What alternative the Soviet Union had?

Western governments, she said, overreact. Apparently this is explained by the influence of the military-industrial complex. Look, for example, at what the Americans are doing. They made use of the events in Afghanistan in order to take disproportionate "energetic" measures. One has to admit that one of the causes of that is the rapprochement between China and the USA on an anti-Soviet basis.

In answer to the question whether it is possible to speak of a Beijing-Washington "axis", Indira Gandhi said: No, one cannot. But one can speak of a very close accord between China, the USA and Pakistan and this accord is of an anti-Soviet character.

The U.S. aid to Pakistan, the head of the Indian Government added, may well have a result opposite to what the USA is seeking. Have a look at what took place in Iran--the collapse of the shah. The Americans apparently do not understand at all the essence of what is taking place in Pakistan where political unrest is mounting. Over there, too, the West which criticized me so much when I imposed a state of emergency (in 1975), has no scruples at all about helping the Pakistani military dictatorship.

About relations with China, Indira Gandhi said that "China up to now lays claims to Indian territory and increased the number of its advisers and specialists in Nepal."

INDIA'S RAO ENDS TALKS WITH ALGERIAN COUNTERPART

LD011410 Moscow TASS in English 1325 GMT 1 Mar 80 LD

["Where the Nonaligned Movement Is Pulled to?"--TASS headline]

[Commentator S. Bulantsev report]

[Text] Moscow, March 1 TASS--Talks between P.V. Narsimha Rao, Indian minister of external affairs and Mohamed Ben Yahia, Algerian minister of foreign affairs, ended in the Indian capital. During the talks the sides expressed the opinion that the nonaligned countries must take measures to prevent the nonaligned movement from turning into an anti-Soviet movement and from finding itself drawn into cold war.

This statement is in point of fact an answer to the antiSoviet campaign launched by the President of the United States in connection with the events in Afghanistan. In an attempt to draw nonaligned countries into the provocative campaign, Washington propaganda seeks to present the case in such a way that the stay of a limited contingent of Soviet troops in Afghanistan, troops sent there at the request of the Afghan Government, is ostensibly fraught with a certain threat to the movement of nonalignment as such.

It is needless to enter into polemics once again and prove again that an imperialist aggression has been staged against Afghanistan and that an undeclared war, in which the United States is playing the main role, is being waged. The aim of the Soviet assistance to Afghanistan is to repel external aggression and ultimately to secure that Afghanistan could remain a free, sovereign, neutral and nonaligned country.

If one is to speak of a real threat to the nonaligned movement as a whole and to individual participants in the movement, in particular, it not at all emanates from the Soviet Union. The "rapid deployment corps", created by the Pentagon, became operational today, on the first day of spring. This select military formation numbering 110,000 cutthroats is intended for armed interferences in the internal affairs of the developing countries most of which participate in the nonaligned movement, that can be more hostile to the nonaligned movement, to peace and security of the peoples? And this is but only one. latest action of Washington in a long chain of U.S. provocations against nonaligned countries.

The danger to the nonaligned movement also emanates from Beijing which acts in the same bloc with imperialist reaction.

There hardly can be anything more alien to the nonaligned movement than the attempts by the present Chinese mandarins to get hold of Southeast Asia and than their support for antipopular regimes in Africa and Latin America. Seeking to undermine the nonaligned movement, Beijing hegemonists try to pentrate its ranks and even do not mind placing themselves at the head of it.

The nonaligned countries are full of determination to remain truly nonaligned regardless of where the Washington and Beijing enticers pull them to. The opinions expressed by the Indian and Algerian foreign ministers at the talks in Delhi indicate that they sweep aside the attempts at taking out the anti-imperialist essence of nonalignment and at giving to it an antiSoviet trend and that they associate the goals of their movement first of all with the struggle for peace and detente. In the realization of this most topical task of our times, they actively cooperate with their natural and tested allies--the states of the socialist community.

YOGOSLAV JOURNALS ECHO WESTERN PROPAGANDA ON AFGHANISTAN

LD041546 Moscow TASS in English 1531 GMT 4 Mar 80 LD

[Yuriy Kornilov commentary: "Strange Stance"]

[Text] Moscow, March 4, TASS--The Yugoslav NIN weekly has published a lengthly article on the recent events in Kabul. One cannot help wondering when reading this story, whether NIN has published by some oversight an article by a Western "Sovietologist"--expert in rotten anti-Soviet and anti-Afghan "sensation?" The unrest in Kabul instigated by agents of imperialism and reaction is pictured by NIN as "protest against foreign occupation." Actions of bandits and mercenaries, who set houses on fire and ransacked shops, are pictured on the pages of the weekly as a "demonstration of civil disobedience." And so on, and so forth.

It is well-known who and with what aim was trying in February to disturb peaceful life in the Afghan capital: This has been done by the mercenaries of Afghanistan's external enemies having recourse to any means in an attempt to undermine the gains of the April revolution. The competent Afghan authorities have established the names of the bandits and instigators, who were trained and armed outside the country and secretly sent into Kabul from the outside, and also established who trained them for brigand acts. All this was reported in detail by the Kabul press and the Afghan BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY. Why then, one may ask, the NIN journal prefers to echo the obvious inventions of the Western propaganda?

NIN is not the only Yugoslav press organ which echoes other people's voices when touching upon the events in Afghanistan. Here is another article on the same subject--from the START journal. This journal went so far as to try to place Soviet aid to revolutionary Afghanistan on a level with...the aggressive provocative intrigues of the USA against revolutionary Iran. START expatiates in this connection at length on the policy of superpowers, which, as it puts it, are fighting for "spheres of influence," that as the journal claims "hits above all the non-aligned countries." These are familiar "theories!" And it is not difficult to see wherefrom they were borrowed, even if the notorious "superpowers concept" is this time set not in hieroglyphs...

When reading the stories in NIN and START, one cannot help thinking that both these Yugoslav press organs are concerned not over the destiny of independent and sovereign Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, but are trying to echo Afghanistan's external enemies, to cast aspersions on the young revolutionary republic and its friends. It is, mildly speaking, a strange stance! Especially for the Yugoslav press organs, which are so zealously pretending that they are concerned with nothing else, but the independence of non-aligned Afghanistan....

MILITARY LEADERS ATTEND ARMY DAY FETE AT GDR EMBASSY

LD050817 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 1 Mar 80 p 3 LD

[Unattributed report: "Reception at GDR Embassy"]

[Text] On 29 February Maj Gen G. Rother, GDR military attache in the USSR, held a reception to mark the 24th anniversary of the GDR National People's Army.

The reception was attended by: Army General A.A. Yepishev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate; Army General S.K. Kurkotkin, USSR deputy defense minister; and also Marshals of the Soviet Union I.Kh. Bagramyan and V.I. Chuykov, Air Marshal A.I. Pokryshkin, other marshals of categories of troops, generals, admirals and officers of the Soviet Armed Forces, and representatives of the Soviet public.

Those attending included the military attaches at foreign countries' embassies in Moscow.

The reception was also attended by H. Ott, GDR ambassador to the USSR.

RASHIDOV CONFERS WITH HUSAK DURING TASHKENT STOPOVER

LD031059 Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA in Russian 13 Feb 80 p 1 LD

[UZTAG report: "Czechoslovak Delegation in Tashkent"]

[Text] A Czechoslovak party and government delegation headed by Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of the CSSR, made a brief stopover in Tashkent 12 February on its way to Vietnam, Kampuchea and Laos on an official friendly visit. The delegation comprises Lubomir Strougal, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and CSSR premier; Rudolf Rohlicek, member of the CPCZ Central Committee and CSSR deputy premier; Josef Haman, secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee; Bohuslav Chnoupek, member of the CPCZ Central Committee and CSSR foreign minister; and other workers of CSSR party, government and state organs.

At Tashkent airport, decorated with the CSSR, USSR and Uzbek SSR state flags, Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of the CSSR, and the persons accompanying him were met by Sh. R. Rashidov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Uzbekistan CP Central Committee; I.G. Anisimkin, T.N. Osetrov, I.B. Usmankhodzhayev and A.A. Khodzhayev, members of the Uzbekistan CP Central Committee Bureau; and also M.T. Tursunov, deputy chairman of the Uzbek SSR Council of Ministers and republic foreign minister; U. Umarov, first secretary of the Tashkentskiy Gorkom; Kh. R. Rakhimov, chief of an Uzbekistan CP Central Committee department, and other officials.

During their talks Sh. R. Rashidov emphasized with great satisfaction the tremendous significance of the indissoluble fraternal friendship and international solidarity between the USSR and CSSR peoples and the joint efforts of the CPSU and the CPCZ in the struggle to further strengthen international security and to insure peace throughout the world. He spoke of the republic's successes in implementing the historic decisions of the 25th party congress and the CPSU Central Committee November (1979) Plenum and the urgent tasks set by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and of the great enthusiasm with which the working people are preparing to greet the 110th anniversary of Vladimir Ilich Lenin's birth.

Gustav Husak expressed cordial gratitude for the Czechoslovak party and government delegation's warm welcome and reception in Tashkent and evaluated highly the significance of the consistent peace-loving foreign policy of the CPSU and the Soviet state and of the personal contribution of Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, to the struggle to further strengthen international security and to develop friendly mutually advantageous relations with all countries.

The Czechoslovak party and government delegation headed by Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of the CSSR, left Tashkent for Hanoi the same day.

WESTERN EUROPE

FRENCH, BRITISH AIDES BEGIN MOSCOW TALKS ON AFGHANISTAN

LD041253 London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 4 Mar 80 p 30 LD

[Richard Beeston dispatch: "Talks in Moscow on Afghan Pull-out"]

[Text] Moscow--Two senior French officials began talks in Moscow yesterday on the issue of a Soviet military withdrawal from Afghanistan and the British ambassador to Moscow, discussed Britain's neutralisation plan for Afghanistan at the Soviet Foreign Ministry.

The British envoy, Sir Curtis Keeble, was given an unresponsive half-hour by a deputy foreign minister on his first visit to outline Lord Carrington's plan.

The official Soviet line is that all opposition to the Moscow-installed regime in Kabul is foreign inspired and that Soviet forces will only be withdrawn when all foreign intervention ceases.

The two French officials Bruno de Leusse, secretary general of the Foreign Ministry and Gabriel Robin, head of the ministry's Political Affairs Department, are meeting Mr Georgiy Korniyenko, the Soviet first deputy foreign minister.

Under a 10-year-old agreement with the Soviet Union, France has the right to discuss any subject at any time with the Soviet authorities.

When Mr Korniyenko was invited to Paris he was told France considered the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan jeopardised detente, one of the foundations of Franco-Soviet relations.

President Giscard d'Estaing has said that a Soviet withdrawal was a realistic aim for Western diplomacy.

Meanwhile, the Pakistan ambassador to Moscow yesterday handed a protest to the Soviet Union over the violation of Pakistan air space on Saturday by a Soviet military plane.

Paris Report

LD041118 Paris Domestic Service in French 1100 GMT 4 Mar 80 LD

[Text] In Moscow Secretary General of the French Foreign Ministry Bruno de Leusse began talks this morning with the USSR deputy foreign minister, talks which are restricted exclusively to Afghanistan.

OSLO SUCCUMBS TO NATO PRESSURE ON MANEUVERS, ARMS DUMPS

LD031055 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 28 Feb 80 p 3 LD

[Col M. Ponomarev "Military-Political Commentary": "Giving Way to Transatlantic Pressure"]

[Text] This time the location for the latest NATO Armed Forces exercises is extensive regions in the northern part of Norway. These exercises, codenamed "Anorak Express," will last a whole month--up to 27 March. Taking part are about 20,000 Norwegian, Canadian, West German, Italian, Dutch, British and American officers and men, and also warships from a number of bloc countries, including the U.S. Navy's amphibious helicopter carrier Saipan.

In an attempt to minimize the scale of the North Atlantic bloc's new militarist venture on Norwegian soil and muffle its provocative nature, in an interview for the NTB agency, J. Holst, spokesman for the Norwegian Foreign Ministry, tried to assert that "there is nothing about the 'Anorak Express' maneuvers to attract attention." "They are routine in nature," Holst said, "and take place every 2 years." However, that statement was obviously calculated to deceive the world public. The scale of the maneuvers has more than doubled in comparison with previous years. The significance which NATO staffs attach to them is indicated by the fact that Gen B. Rogers, commander in chief of the bloc's Allied Armed Forces in Europe, and other military leaders will be present at the maneuvers. The main point is that the NATO militarist show has been organized in close proximity to the Soviet borders and in accordance with a clearly provocative scenario.

According to foreign press reports, during the maneuvers it is planned to rehearse collaboration between the Norwegian Army and troops from other NATO countries and the bloc's so-called "fire brigade"--special mobile units--in making landings in winter conditions with the aim of rebuffing a mythical "Soviet attack."

In this connection Finland's KANSAN TAHTO newspaper wrote: "The Norwegians seem to have forgotten the experience of history. The Soviet Union has never threatened Norway. During World War II Soviet troops liberated the country's northern regions from the Hitlerite occupiers. Now there is no reason to show concern over the nonexistent 'Soviet threat.'"

That is quite correct. There is only one correction that should be made. It is not the Norwegians in general who have forgotten the experience of history. Ordinary people in Norway remember well and value highly the Soviet Union's contribution to the defeat of Hitler's Germany during World War II and to the consolidation of peace and the peoples' security since the war. But apparently Norway's ruling circles have indeed forgotten this. Yielding easily to transatlantic pressure, they are virtually playing the part of accomplices in the present American administration's adventurist line aimed at undermining the relaxation of tension and unleashing "cold war."

That is confirmed not only by the "Anorak Express" maneuvers, but by many other facets too. In particular the press reports that talks between Washington and Oslo on creating dumps of heavy weapons and combat hardware on Norwegian soil--tanks, armored carriers, motor vehicles, helicopters and so forth--for an American brigade consisting of 8,000-10,000 men intended for use "in the event of a rapid landing near the USSR's borders" are nearing completion. These dumps are to be "closed," that is, to be entirely under Pentagon control. Thus the American command will be able at will to deploy any types and systems of weapons there without the knowledge of the Norwegian authorities, including nuclear weapons and delivery means. That means that without prior permission they could bypass Norway's foreign policy principles, which include in particular a commitment not to deploy foreign military bases and nuclear weapons on the country's territory in peacetime.

Under Pentagon pressure the Norwegian Government is also carrying out other militarist preparations. Among them one can cite the plan to modernize installations of NATO's NADGE [NATO Air Defense Ground Environment] radar early warning system. The radar stations forming part of this system will be equipped with sophisticated apparatus and deployed in armored and underground covers. At the same time the country's authorities are positively disposed toward the idea of extending the network of American radio-electronic reconnaissance facilities on Norway's territory.

Militarist shows near the Soviet borders, the U.S. plans to deploy heavy weapons in Norway for mobile units and subunits knocked together according to the pattern of the gendarme "quick reaction corps" and other dangerous acts being carried out with the knowledge and blessing of the Norwegian authorities are leading to an exacerbation of tension in northern Europe.

PORTUGUESE SOCIALIST TACTICS THREATEN TO SPLIT LEFT

LD021656 Moscow in Portuguese to Portugal 1930 GMT 1 Mar 80 LD

[Yaroslav Khabarov commentary]

[Text] A few days ago, the Portuguese Socialist Party [PS] appealed for the formation of a new electoral bloc, the so-called progress front, envisaging the next parliamentary elections to be held in October 1980.

The leaders of the Portuguese PS have already taken concrete steps in that direction and have set up a special conciliation committee. The committee's basic objective is to hold the necessary separate talks with those political parties, groupings and figures interested in the PS's proposal. The Independent Social Democratic Association, led by Sousa Franco; the Union of the Left for Socialist Democracy, led by Lopes Cardoso; the Social Democratic Movement, led by Sa Borges; and popular political leaders such as former Prime Minister Maria de Lourdes Pintasilgo and former Speaker of the Assembly of the Republic Vasco da Gama Fernandes were some of the parties, groupings and figures listed by Mario Soares.

According to a PS statement, the progress front's task is very important for the leftwing forces, and is aimed at striking a blow to the rightwing, bourgeois and conservative Democratic Alliance bloc in the next parliamentary elections.

One might think that, having aroused visible interest in the country's public opinion, the PS initiative should deserve unconditional support. One might also think that the proposed alliance would be the kind of political union capable of defeating Portuguese reaction. In our view, however, such a conclusion would be a hasty one, because the socialist proposal has an obvious drawback which counteracts all possible positive aspects contained therein: Mario Soares stated that the Portuguese Communist Party would not be included in the said socialist-sponsored idea of a progressive front.

The socialist leader does not wish to invite the communists to the progress front because the communists' conduct does not measure up to Mario Soares' idea of democratic principles. This is obviously a dangerous relapse into the old disease affecting the socialist leaders who have also suffered in the past from primitive anticommunism. It seems that they have not yet learned anything from their defeat in the 2 December elections of last year. Disappointed with the inconsistency of PS policy, many leftwingers voted at the time against the PS. While speaking today about unity, the PS leaders simultaneously make fresh anticommunist statements. This can only please the rightwing opponents of the PS itself and at the same time confuse many leftwing voters who will once again find themselves at a crossroads as a result of the PS strategy.

We cannot therefore fail to regret the PS leaders' short-sightedness, which gives no sign of improvement and is indeed deteriorating. We cannot but regret that this time the sponsors of the said progressive front are apparently not against the idea of dragging behind them not only other leaders, both inside and outside the PS, but also others who are basically honest and faithful to the cause of the April revolution into the swamps of anticommunism.

In such circumstances, we should like to recall that in a recent interview granted to the weekly O JORNAL, Carlos Brito, leader of the parliamentary group of the Portuguese Communist Party, once again outlined the consistent stand of the Communist Party. Carlos Brito said that the communists believe that a coordination of efforts on the part of all democrats, patriots and antifascists under a single united front is necessary for a successful outcome of the struggle in defense of the democratic order established in Portugal on 25 April 1974. All leftwing and genuinely democratic forces, without exception, should participate in such a front.

To speak about a democratic front of the forces of the left and a genuine front of social progress without the participation of the Portuguese communists, however, is something that can only lead to a dispersal of the democratic and patriotic forces.

PORTUGUESE COMMUNISTS CONDEMN SA CARNEIRO GOVERNMENT

LD021627 Moscow TASS in English 1247 GMT 2 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Lisbon, March 2, TASS--A statement of the Department of Information and Propaganda of the Central Committee of the Portuguese Communist Party was circulated here. The government of Sa Carneiro, the document says, sounds tocsin, declaring that the country is on the threshold of an uprising, that strikes of the working people jeopardize the democratic regime and that the opposition resorts to constant obstruction of the cabinet's measures. In reality, the aim of this campaign that has no real ground is to conceal through intimidation the cabinet's inability to solve national problems. This campaign also has the purpose to try to shift on the working people and the democratic opposition forces the responsibility for the grim consequences of the cabinet's reactionary policy, for violations of legality and abuse of power.

The Portuguese Communist Party accuses the government of obstructing normal functioning of the democratic regime, of undermining it and distrupting tranquility. This refers, specifically, to a sharp increase of the cost of living, to the return to former landlords of lands, cattle and farm machinery belonging to cooperative societies, to the "freezing" of collective bargaining agreements for more than half of million working people. The Portuguese Communist Party condemns resolutely the abrogation by the present authorities of a number of decrees of the previous cabinet, including the decree on raising pensions, which affects the interests of about one million of aged people, as well as measures to limit the public sector of the economy alongside with the paying out of compensations to big business running into billions, and the attempt to revise the progressive law on suffrage operating in the country.

The Communist Party expresses the confidence that the Portuguese people will be able to protect the gains of the revolution and the democratic regime that has been established as a result of that revolution.

PONOMAREV, ZAGLADIN HOLD TALKS WITH SWISS LEADERS

LD031933 Moscow TASS in English 1821 GMT 3 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 3, TASS--Alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Boris Ponomarev and alternate member of the CPSU Central Committee, First Deputy Chief of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee Vadim Zagladin had today a conversation with General Secretary of the Swiss Labour Party Armand Magnin and member of the Political Bureau, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Swiss Labour Party Hans-Joerg Hofer.

Representatives of both parties exchanged opinion on key problems of the present-day international situation. It was emphasized that the responsibility for the aggravation of the international situation is borne, first of all, by the United States that is trying to impose the policy of diktat in relations with socialist and developing countries, to undermine detente and bring the world back to the times of cold war.

Representatives of the CPSU and the Swiss Labour Party pointed to the importance of a joint rebuff by communist and workers' parties, all progressive and democratic forces to these dangerous designs.

They emphasized the resolve to continue the struggle for detente, against the arms race, for the consolidation of friendship and cooperation among all countries of the European Continent.

The conversation passed in the atmosphere of mutual understanding, in the spirit of friendship and cooperation typical for the relations between the CPSU and the Swiss Labour Party.

FINNISH PARLIAMENTARIANS VISIT KARELIAN CONSTRUCTION SITES

LD031119 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Feb 80 p 4 LD

[TASS report: "Under the Sign of Good Neighborliness"]

[Text] Kostomuksha (Karelskaya ASSR), 20 February--A group of members of the Finnish Republic's parliamentary Commission on Foreign Affairs today visited the construction site of the Kostomuksha mining and enriching combine and the mineworkers' new city being built with the participation of Finnish construction firms. The group, which is headed by Kalevi Sorsa, chairman of this commission and chairman of the Finnish Social Democratic Party, includes Aarne Saarinen, Communist Party chairman, Matti Ruokola, chairman of the Center Party parliamentary faction, and a number of other deputies.

The guests acquainted themselves with the construction sites of the combine and the future city.

There was a meeting between the Finnish parliamentarians and Academician N.N. Inozemtsev, member of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union Foreign Affairs Commission; V.S. Shaposhnikov, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department; G.N. Sergeyev, USSR deputy minister of ferrous metallurgy; and other officials.

The meeting participants stressed that in the existing international situation it is particularly essential to continue and consolidate the policy of detente.

GROMYKO EXCHANGES CABLES WITH ICELANDIC FOREIGN MINISTER

LD282325 Moscow TASS in English 1607 GMT 28 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 28, TASS--Andrey Gromyko, foreign minister of the USSR, sent a telegram to Olafur Johannesson, foreign minister of Iceland, congratulating the Icelandic minister on his appointment to the post.

In his telegram, Olafur Johannesson thanked Andrey Gromyko for his congratulations.

The telegrams expressed hope that the relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries will continue to develop in the interests of the Soviet and Icelandic peoples.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON UN COMMISSION IN IRAN

Meeting With Hostages

LD041510 Moscow TASS in English 1324 GMT 4 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Tehran, March 4, TASS--In Tehran, the international commission for considering Iran's grievances against the crimes of the former shah and U.S. activities in Iran received an official permission for a meeting with U.S. hostages. However, as was stated by Hojjat ol-Islam Hashemi-Rafsanjani, a member of the Islamic Revolution Council, the commission members will be allowed first to meet only with those of the hostages who will agree to give testimony about their espionage activities in Iran. Later on, he said, the question of a meeting with the rest of the hostages will be considered.

Continuation of Investigations

LD050813 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 1 Mar 80 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[Correspondent A. Akhmedzyanov dispatch: "The Facts Indict"]

[Text] Tehran--The UN international commission investigating the crimes of the former shah against the Iranian people is continuing its work in Tehran.

Its members are meeting with S. Qotbzadeh, foreign minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and receiving and questioning dozens of Iranians who suffered in the torture chambers of the SAVAK secret police.

While giving evidence to the commission, witnesses name the implements and methods of torture: "Apollo"--a special device reminiscent of a seat in an American spacecraft used for torture; "Uncle Sam's bed"--a metal couch to which they tied a prisoner and applied a current to the frame. The implements of torture are stamped "made in the United States." They were "gifts" from the CIA to SAVAK.

Dr M. Momken, deputy minister of national guidance, clearly expressed in conversation with me the sentiments prevailing in Iran in connection with the international commission's work.

"At the same time as President Carter was expatiating to the whole world on the defense of human rights," he said, "in our country thousands of Iran's sons were being sent to torture and to death on the CIA's instructions. And President Carter was hypocritically proclaiming that 'the Iranian monarchy is a bulwark of democracy in the Near and Middle East....'"

IRANIANS MARK ANNIVERSARY OF MOSSADEQ'S DEATH

LD042058 Moscow TASS in English 1647 GMT 4 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Tehran, March 4, TASS--The Iranian people mark the 13th anniversary of the death of the former Prime Minister Mohammad Mossadeq. The name of that statesman, an active champion of his country's economic and political independence, who fought against imperialist monopolies, is profoundly respected in Iran. Today, tens of thousands of Iranians gathered at a meeting in the village of Ahmadabad to which Mossadeq had been exiled after his government had been over thrown in a plot organized by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency. The meeting was attended by the leaders of the republic, representatives of political parties and public organizations. In Tehran and other cities of the country mass demonstrations are being held under the slogans: "The Cause of Mossadeq Lives and Wins!" "Down with U.S. Imperialists-Plunderers", "Mossadeq's Dream Has Come Ture--Iranian Oil Belongs to the People!"

FURTHER COMMENT ON RHODESIAN ELECTION RESULTS

Setback for British Diplomacy

LD041522 Moscow World Service in English 1300 GMT 4 Mar 80 LD

[Text] It has been announced in Salisbury that the ZANU [Zimbabwe African National Union] party led by Robert Mugabe has won the general election for the African population in Rhodesia and is now to form a new government. The ZANU party has received 57 seats in parliament with 20 more going to ZAPU [Zimbabwe African People's Union], led by Joshua Nkomo, and 3 more to the grouping of Bishop Muzorewa. Our news analyst Valeriy Belyanskiy comments on the election returns:

The election in Rhodesia and the impressive victory for the Patriotic Front opens a new political page in the history of this former British colony. The near future will show how forces will be lined up in the parliament and in the country, but there is one result of the election about which there is no doubt at all--the crushing defeat for the Abel Muzorewa grouping does not amount only to his personal defeat: It is also a setback for British diplomacy which tried to determine the outcome of the elections to its tasten choosing the quisling Muzorewa as its trump card in the Rhodesian game.

One may assume that Bishop Muzorewa, who regarded himself as much as the head of the government from the very start of the election campaign but also has now received only three seats in parliament, will be now putting all the blame on London. But if he does so it will be unfair. London seems to have done all it could for its protage to be in a privileged position in the period before the election. The British colonial administration gave Muzorewa a free hand to conduct his campaign in the absence of his political opponents with the backing of his auxiliaries and the racist Rhodesian Army. Muzorewa also received generous subsidies from Britain. The British governor, Lord Soames, gave him a special right to use the Rhodesian mass media in his interests. Finally, London went to great lengths in its support for Muzorewa, so much so that its biased position was unanimously denounced in the UN Security Council and at a session of the OAU.

What is really important now is what line British diplomacy will take in a political settlement in Rhodesia. Despite the obvious results of the election, the situation in that country remains tense. According to the DAILY TELEGRAPH, it cannot be ruled out that the victory by Robert Mugabe's party will convince South Africa it has no alternative but a military intervention. This point was discussed between London and Pretoria back at the time when the constitutional conference on Rhodesia was being held in Lancaster House. Will such a risky move, which will have grave consequences for both South Africa and Britain, really be made? Having voted for the national patriotic forces, Rhodesia has made its political choice. At the same time, this choice has narrowed the field for London's political maneuvers, for up till recently London believed it was possible to play a profitable neo-colonialist game with the help of such unprofitable figures as Abel Muzorewa.

Tasks of New Government

LD041558 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1330 GMT 4 Mar 80 LD

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Andrey Ptashnikov and Valentin Gubernatorov]

[Excerpts] [Gubernatorov] An impressive victory has been won at the elections which have just ended by representatives of the Patriotic Front of Zimbabwe, which defends the interests of the black majority in Rhodesia. Robert Mugabe is now entitled to form a new government.

Mugabe has noted that the foreign policy of this government will be founded upon the principles of the nonalined movement and of mutually advantageous cooperation with all countries, and to a greater extent with socialist countries. In the field of domestic policies, the government is faced with the tasks of improving the life of the peoples and defending its interests from encroachment from outside.

[Ptashnikov] I shall add to what you said that the results of the Rhodesian election have shown that the African population of the country voted for the Patriotic Front of Zimbabwe in spite of a blatant campaign of terror and intimidation launched by the racists and their transatlantic backers with the aim of insuring victory for their stooges. Neither the British colonial power, nor the enormous machinery of violence nor the South African troops proved able to intimidate the people of Zimbabwe or to help Muzorewa and other puppets to come to power. But I want to note that having suffered their crushing defeat, the racists of Rhodesia and their patrons abroad have no intention of capitulating. Moreover, as events show, they are prepared to go to any ends to remain in power. Thus former Prime Minister Muzorewa has said: I do not agree with the election result and will try and have it reviewed. There is also the well-known statement by British Prime Minister Thatcher, who stressed that the formation of the new Rhodesian Government will not necessarily be entrusted to the leaders of the party which wins the election. The racists of South Africa have also threatened that they are ready to carry out a coup in Rhodesia if the Patriotic Front comes to power in the country.

Mugabe-Nkomo Coalition Possible

LD041412 Moscow TASS in English 1404 GMT 4 Mar 80 LD

[Sergey Kulik commentary: "Zimbabwe: Unity Is Guarantee of Final Victory"]

[Text] Moscow, March 4, TASS--The Rhodesian election returns have shown that neither terror nor the frantic campaign of intimidation with "a Marxist threat" prevented the African population of that country from voting for those who in the last 15 years had been directing their armed struggle for setting up a genuinely independent and democratic republic of Zimbabwe. The sweeping victory, gained by the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front in the elections, offers an opportunity for ZANU and ZAPU of setting up a government of national unity, reflecting the genuine interests of the African majority of that country. At the same time, judging from dispatches from London, Salisbury and Pretoria, the neo-colonialists do not want to reconcile themselves to their defeat. Abel Muzorewa's pronouncements that he "disagrees" with the results of the elections and is going to press for their revision, are being widely spread.

The South African press bluntly voices its dissatisfaction with the victory of the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front; it quotes racist leaders as saying that they "reserve the right to interfere in the affairs of Rhodesia", including direct armed intervention, if "developments in that country do not accord with their interests". Many political commentators admit that Ian Smith still expects to exploit for his ends certain differences between the African parties and also the legal loopholes created by the British in working out the draft constitution of Zimbabwe.

That is why today, the necessity of unity of the liberation forces acquires greater significance than ever before. Robert Mugabe, learning of the ZANU victory in the elections, declared that he regarded ZAPU as the natural ally in the government coalition. The necessity of restoring unity of the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front has also been stressed more than once by Joshua Nkomo. It is only joint efforts by the national liberation forces that can finally frustrate the conspiracy of the neo-colonialists against Zimbabwe, wrest the country from South African captivity and make it an integral part of independent Africa.

BREZHNEV, KUZNETSOV SPEAK AT SUPREME SOVIET PRESIDIUM

LD041744 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 4 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Under the chairmanship of Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, a routine meeting of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium was held in the Kremlin today. The meeting discussed the results of the elections to supreme soviets of the union and autonomous republics and to local soviets of peoples deputies.

A report was made by Comrade Kuznetsov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. It was noted that the elections took place everywhere in an organized fashion in full accordance with the constitution of the USSR, the constitutions of the union and autonomous republics, and the new election laws.

The Soviet people have expressed unanimous support for the domestic and foreign policies of the Communist Party and the Soviet state and the Leninist policy of the CPSU Central Committee toward further development of the socialist economy and culture, improving the wellbeing of Soviet people, and toward strengthening peace and cooperation between peoples.

More than 176 million electors took part in the elections, that is, almost the entire adult population of the country. 99.9 percent of them voted for the candidates of the bloc of Communists and nonparty members. Altogether 2,285,000 deputies were elected to supreme soviets of the union and autonomous republics and to local soviets. Of these 68.6 percent comprise workers and collective farmers; 43.2 percent of the deputies are CPSU members and candidate members and 56.8 percent nonparty members. Almost half the deputies are women.

Speaking about the elections which have now ended, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev said: The results of the elections are gratifying. The great work which has been carried out over the past almost 5 years by party organizations, soviets, millions of deputies and our state as a whole has been approved.

The significance of this support from the whole people is enormous. We need to solve complex national economic tasks, which were referred to at the November Plenum of the Central Committee. Difficult problems have also arisen in connection with the aggravation of the international situation. Yet we are convinced that we will overcome the difficulties. The guarantee of this is provided by the inviolable unity of the party and people.

The bloc of Communists and nonparty members is not a coalition for an hour as is so characteristic of bourgeois elections. It is operative on a permanent and increasingly wide basis.

The tasks of improving the efficiency and quality of labor, improving the management of the national economy and the unconditional fulfilment of plan targets remain crucial for us. Much will have to be done by the new leadership of the soviets. Here too, comrades, special attention is merited by the further improvement of our socialist democracy. The maximum scope for popular initiative and the support for what is new and frontranking at all levels, from the village and rayon soviet right up to the supreme organs of state power, and the intolerance of mere routine working, all this must become the rule. It is important to stimulate a creative atmosphere in our society.

The work of each soviet must proceed in close contact with the population and in reliance on the broad public. The political and labor activism of the masses evoked by the elections and by Lenin's birth anniversary must not only be maintained, but must be doubled and trebled.

Life insistently requires the strengthening of control exercised by soviets in all sectors. The control is called upon to serve the strengthening of state and plan discipline and heightening the responsibility of all officials. This refers of course not only to pointing out shortcomings, but also to resolutely eradicating them. In a word, the effectiveness of control, just as of state activity, must be evaluated first and foremost on its final results.

The new membership of the soviets, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev concluded, bears a great responsibility; of being at the wheel of the ship of state during the period of preparations for the 26th party congress, and subsequently during the period of implementing the decisions of this congress. This will be a time when we shall be taking yet another step in the movement towards communism. I do not doubt that the soviets and the more than 2 million deputies will discharge their duties well.

Taking into consideration the reports of the presidiums of the supreme soviets of union republics on the results of elections to supreme soviets of the union and autonomous republics and to local soviets of peoples deputies, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium in its decision made it incumbent on soviets and their executive committees to insure the strengthening and further development of political and labor enthusiasm in the collectives of enterprises and organizations which has achieved during the election campaign period, paying particular attention to improving the efficiency of production and the quality of work, improving the economic mechanism, strengthening control over the fulfillment plan assignments and observance of laws, and strengthening state discipline.

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium discussed a report by Comrade Tikhonov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, on the results of an examination of proposals and remarks made by standing commissions of the chambers and deputies of the USSR Supreme Soviet, as proposed for the Second Session of the USSR Supreme Soviet of the Tenth Convocation, during the debate on the plan and budget for 1980. The report stressed that the principal attention of the USSR Council of Ministers and of the councils of ministries of the union republics, and of USSR ministries and departments, is focused on resolving the most important and urgent questions of the development of the country's economy and raising the well-being of the people and the development of culture.

The CPSU Central Committee and the Council of Ministers have examined and taken decisions on the questions of improving material conditions of participants in the Great Patriotic War. The decisions taken by the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers on the questions of improving planning and perfecting the economic mechanism, strengthening labor discipline and reduction of manpower fluctuation, accelerating scientific and technological progress in the principal industries, stepping up natural conservation and improving management, are being consistently implemented.

A series of important decisions have been taken recently connected with the accelerated economic development of a number of areas of the country, including Siberia, the Far East, Kazakhstan and the regions inhabited by northern ethnic groups.

Summing up the debate on this question, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev said: This is the fourth time we at the Presidium have listened to reports by the USSR Council of Ministers on these items. After the adoption of the Constitution such government reports have firmly entered our practise. This is a good thing. The reports and material which we have received enable us to conclude that the government is carrying out the necessary work to implement the proposals of the deputies and the standing commissions. This helps to find the best solution to many questions. We follow Lenin's behest. Soviet deputies not only adopt laws but also actively participate in the management of state.

And one other point: In the speeches made by deputies at the sessions and in the standing commissions one can see their great concern for development of the economy. Moreover the main attention, which is entirely justified, is paid to improving the economic mechanism. The deputies approach this problem from broad viewpoints, taking into consideration economic, social and even psychological factors. Such an approach to this most important problem of state significance is the only correct one.

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium instructed the ministries, state committees and departments of the USSR, and the councils of ministers of union republics, to insure implementation of the measures which have been drawn up, to carry through the proposals and remarks made by standing commissions of the chambers and deputies of the USSR Supreme Soviet, being guided therein by the directions of the November 1979 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and by other party decisions on the consistent implementation of a course toward improving the efficiency and quality of work at all stages of the national economy, toward raising the standard of the country's economy and strengthening state and labor discipline.

The meeting examined the question of proposals for changes and additions in the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium's decree on the procedure for examining proposals, statements and complaints made by citizens. Comrade Georgadze, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, who delivered a report on this question, described the proposed changes and additions. Evaluating the changes and additions being made to the decree, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev noted that they would serve to further strengthen socialist legality and democracy. Every Soviet person, he said, must be confident that every well-founded proposal, statement or complaint will be attentively looked into, and that a just decision will be taken.

Over recent years much has been done to improve work involving correspondence, but formalism, red tape and negligent attitude to people's requests have not yet fully ceased. Because of this the justified requirements of the working people frequently are not satisfied. There was some pointed discussion of this, as you know, at the November Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee. The maximum sensitivity, the maximum attentiveness and the maximum concern for people is required by the party of all our institutions and officials.

The Presidium unanimously confirmed the decree on the procedure for examining proposals, statements and complaints made by citizens in its new edited form. The presidiums of the supreme soviets of union republics were instructed to coordinate their republican legislation with this all-union enactment.

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium then discussed the question of the work carried out in the Azerbaijan SSR and the Estonian SSR to increase production of mass consumer goods using local resources. Reports were delivered by Comrade Ibragimov, chairman of the Azerbaijan Council of Ministers, and Comrade Klauson, chairman of the Estonian Council of Ministers.

On behalf of the consumer goods and trade commissions of the chambers and of the USSR Committee of People's Control which checked the work of the republican organs, Comrade Orlov, chairman of the Commission of the Soviet of the Union and Comrade Shkolnikov, chairman of the USSR People's Control Committee, addressed the meeting.

In the decision adopted the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium instructed the supreme soviet presidiums of the Azerbaijan SSR and the Estonian SSR to insure that the work of republican and local state organs is stepped up as regards increasing the production of mass consumer goods by using local resources and capabilities, and as regards meeting the population's requirements for these goods.

The meeting discussed the interaction of standing commissions of the soviets of peoples deputies and the organs of people's control in Perm Oblast.

The meeting also discussed the question of awarding working people the Veteran of Labor Medal, and other questions of state life.

Comrades Grishin, Kunayev, Romanov, Shcherbitskiy, members of the CPSU CC Politburo; Comrades Masherov and Rashidov, candidate members of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo; Comrade Kapitonov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; and others took part in discussing the items on the agenda.

RSFSR SUPREME SOVIET TO CONVENE 25 MARCH

LD291540 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1445 GMT 29 Feb 80 LD

[Text] The RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has decreed that the first session of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet of the 10th convocation will take place on 25 March in Moscow.

KAZAKH SUPREME SOVIET SESSION CONVENED FOR 27 MARCH

AU291830 Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Russian 1510 GMT 29 Feb 80 AU

[Kazakh Supreme Soviet Presidium decree convening the Kazakh Supreme Soviet]

[Text] The Kazakh Supreme Soviet Presidium resolves to convene the first session of the Kazakh Supreme Soviet of the 10th convocation on 27 March 1980 in Alma-Ata City.

[Signed] Imashev, chairman, and Abayeva, secretary of the Kazakh Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Alma-Ata, the House of the Government, 29 February 1980

NEW DEPUTY CHAIRMAN COUNCIL OF MINISTERS FOR LITHUANIA

LD291659 Vilnyus SOVETSKAYA LITVA in Russian 20 Feb 80 p 1 LD

[Text] By decree of the Lithuanian Supreme Soviet Presidium Vilyus-Antanas Antanovich Kazanavichyus has been appointed deputy chairman of the Lithuanian Council of Ministers.

NEW AZERBAIJAN EDUCATION MINISTER APPOINTED

LD031153 [Editorial Report LD] Baku BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY in Russian 14 February 1980 front-pages an Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decree dated 13 February appointing "Comrade Elmira Mikail Kyzy Kafarova Azerbaijan SSR minister of education." The same paper carries on page 4 an unattributed "Chronicle" report announcing that M. M. Mekhtizade has been relieved of his duties as Azerbaijan SSR minister of education "in connection with his retirement on pension."

GEORGIAN RAYKOM REPLACES REASSIGNED FIRST SECRETARY

LD031543 Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 23 Feb 80 p 2 LD

[GRUZINFORM report: "Plenum of Gardabanskiy Georgian CP Raykom"]

[Text] A plenum of Georgian Gardabanskiy Raykom has examined organizational questions.

The plenum released Comrade G.Sh. Kvantaliani from the duties of first secretary and Bureau member of Gardabanskiy Raykom in connection with his reassignment.

Comrade O. M. Bokeriya was elected first secretary and Bureau member of Gardabanskiy Raykom.

Comrade G.V. Kolbin, second secretary of the Georgian CP Central Committee, took part in and addressed the plenum.

KUZNETSOV IN HONOR GUARD FOR 14 FEB MALIK FUNERAL

LD031037 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Feb 80 p 6 LD

[TASS report: "Last Respects"]

[Text] On 14 February Moscow paid its last respects to Ya.A. Malik, prominent figure in Soviet foreign policy and USSR deputy foreign minister.

The hall where the casket containing the deceased's body was placed was decked in mourning. The many wreaths included a wreath from the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and USSR Council of Ministers. The decorations marking Ya.A. Malik's service to the motherland were displayed on red velvet.

The honor guard included V.V. Kuznetsov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, M.P. Georgadze, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, CPSU Central Committee and USSR Foreign Ministry executives, the leaders of a number of ministries and departments, and representatives of the public.

A funeral meeting was held at Novodevichiy Cemetery, where Ya.A. Malik was buried.

ANDREY SAKHAROV DEFENDS FELLOW DISSIDENT KOPELEV

DW041147 Bonn DIE WELT in German 4 Mar 80 p 1 DW

[Message by Soviet dissident Andrey Sakharov: "Sakharov: They Are Taking Revenge for the Truth"]

[Text] The following message of Professor Sakharov from his place of exile, Gorkiy, has arrived in the West:

The paper SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA has leveled charges at Lev Kopelev, and in so doing even went so far as to call him a fascist. Lev Kopelev has been my friend for many years, just as he--owing to his tolerance--is a close friend to many people who often are rather dissimlar, who can hardly be put on a common platform. All of us know that news about somebody's misfortune makes Lev Kopelev immensely sad, that he immediately drops everything to rush to a person's aid if there is even the slightest chance to help, even if he only stands by the side, to be nearby.

In several autobiographic books Lev Kopelev has described his life, his dreams and errors, the principles of tolerance and of pluralism for which he has paid a steep price. His tragedy is the tragedy of a whole generation, it is immortally valuable that Kopelev managed to emerge from it unbroken, without bitterness. In fact the opposite--human, tolerant, kindhearted, that he knew how to describe everything he experienced for the benefit of others. It is not his fault that Lev Kopelev in the course of his ascent more and more separated himself from the narrowminded, intolerant, cruel stream of bureaucracy. Today--and this is not the first time--this stream is taking revenge on him. It is taking revenge for the truth about the cruelty of war and of the labor camps, for the truth about the organized hunger of the thirties. It is taking revenge most vehemently for the active attitude in the defense of the people of other creeds, again highly different people who are solely united by the common denominator of the injustice inflicted on them.

I declare my solidarity with Lev Kopelev. Truth and moral strength are on his side. I am sure that he has the sympathy of very, very many honest people. Andrey Sakharov, Gorki, 3 February 1980.

FEWER JEWISH, GERMAN EMIGRANTS PERMITTED TO LEAVE

DW041309 Munich SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG in German 4 Mar 80 p 7 DW

[Moscow report signed EN]

[Text] Moscow--In January the Soviet Union permitted the emigration of 3,200 Jews and 381 ethnic Germans. With regard to the Jews this is a considerably lower figure than the German emigree figures in past months. The changes reflect the deterioration of the international political situation. With a view to the SALT II ratification debate in Congress and the hope to be given the Most-Favored-Nation status, the Soviet Union last year permitted 54,000 Jews to leave the country. A high was registered with 5,000 exit permits issued in October. Since then the figure has decreased constantly: In November it was 3,650 and in December 3,350. It seems that the chances of SALT II are being viewed in Moscow as decreasing. With regard to the expatriation of Germans the negative shift is not that clear, but it can be seen. Six hundred eighty nine expatriates in September were followed by 666 in October, 366 in November and 513 in December. Obtaining an exit permit is on principle more difficult for Germans than for Jews, because the Germans applying for an exit permit are always efficient peasants or craftsmen.

USSR STATE BANK ALTERS 17 EXCHANGE RATES

LD050834 Moscow TASS in English 0817 GMT 5 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 5, TASS--The State Bank of the USSR has changed the value rates of 17 currencies. The French and Swiss francs, the Moroccan dirhan, the Yugoslav dinar and the Japanese yen have had their rates lowered. The Afghan afghani, the Ghanian cedi, the Indian rupee, the Italian lira, the dinar of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, the Canadian and American dollars, Norwegian krone and Swedish krona, the Portuguese escudo, the Finnish mark, the pound of sterling have had their rates increased.

As is noted by the newspaper EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in its currency-change commentary, the main reason of a certain growth in the American dollar value rate was a new rise in banking rates on credits in the United States. The official banking rate has again been increased from 12 to 13 percent in the United States because of a high pace of inflation (the growth of retail prices in January was 1.4 percent, or 16.8 percent in annual terms). The market rates respectively went up, and led to an inflow of speculative cpaital into the country. Thus, writes the ECONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA, the rise in the dollar value rate does not testify to a real improvement of American economy. The value rate of the Japanese yen is on the decline because of a considerable worsening of the country's balance of payments.

The price of gold remains high in international markets, the weekly points out.

BREZHNEV GREETINGS TO FERTILIZER COMPLEX PERSONNEL

LD031057 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Feb 80 p 1 LD

[Text] To the construction workers, installation workers, operating workers, party, trade union and Komsomol organizations and all participants in the construction and startup of the complex for the production of compound mineral fertilizers at the Ministry of the Chemical Industry's Voskresensk Minudobreniya Production Association.

Dear comrades:

The CPSU Central Committee has greeted with a sense of profound satisfaction the report of the successful completion of construction and the ahead-of-schedule startup of new capacities to produce compound mineral fertilizers at Voskresensk's Minudobreniya Production Association. I cordially congratulate you on this wonderful achievement.

The construction within a short time of, and achievement of design indicators by the large complex to produce 850,000 tons of ammophos, 450,000 tons of sulfuric acid and 140,000 tons of phosphoric acid per year under the conditions of an existing enterprise and--particularly important--the full use of the newly commissioned production facilities, thus yielding high-quality compound mineral fertilizers, are a great contribution to implementing the 25th CPSU Congress decisions on further boosting agriculture.

You successes in fulfilling a large volume of construction and installation, and commissioning and adjustment work are the result of purposeful organizational and political work by party, trade union and Komsomol organizations and selfless labor by the collectives of construction, installation and design organizations and operating personnel to seek ways of and reserves for reducing the time taker to construct and commission the production capacities and making skillful use of the achievements of science, technology and leading experience.

I express the confidence that you will successfully fulfill the socialist pledges adopted for 1980, devote all your efforts, knowledge and experience to fittingly completing the 10th 5-Year Plan and mark the 110th anniversary of V.I. Lenin's birth with new achievements.

I wish you, dear comrades, good health and new successes for the good of our motherland.

[Signed] L. Brezhnev

KIRILENKO VISITS M.I. KALININ POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

LD031529 Leningrad LENINGRADSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 20 Feb 80 p 3 LD

[LENTASS report: "A.P. Kirilenko's Stay in Leningrad"]

[Text] Member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee A.P. Kirilenko, who is currently in Leningrad, has visited the M.I. Kalinin Polytechnic Institute, whose collective has nominated him candidate deputy of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet. There took place a conversation with responsible party and economic workers and the leaders of a number of leading organizations during which questions of further increasing the contribution made by Leningrad's scientific institutions and industrial enterprises to accelerating the development of the country's fuel and energy complex were examined. The importance was stressed of intensifying targeted-program planning and selecting the optimal variants for the siting of new energy capacities so as to give high national economic end results in light of the demands of the November (1979) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and the instructions of Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. Note was taken of the need to increase the rate of growth of the industrial engineering base of the Izhorskiy Zavod, Leningradskiy Metallicheskiy Zavod and Elektrosila associations. A.P. Kirilenko viewed the exhibition of manipulators, robots and control devices developed in the laboratories of the polytechnic institute, which permit a considerable increase in labor productivity and the replacement of arduous manual operations. A.P. Kirilenko heard about the main scientific research being undertaken by the institute's scientists and also about the new forms of organization of the educational and training process. A meeting between A.P. Kirilenki, RSFSR Supreme Soviet candidate deputy, and voters of the Politekhnicheskiy Electoral Okrug took place in the Lensovet Palace of Culture.

SOLOMENTSEV DELIVERS REPORT TO WORKERS' CONFERENCE

LD291130 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 29 Feb 80 LD

[Text] A conference of industrial, agricultural, construction and transport workers opened in Moscow today. Under discussion are questions connected with the further development of socialist competition for increasing the efficiency and quality of work and the successful fulfillment of this year's plans and tasks faced during this 5-year period. A report was delivered by Solomentsev, candidate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers.

RADIO REPORTS AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS 4 MARCH

LD050258 [Editorial Report LD] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian on 4 March. Times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item:

In Kirgizia, more than 1 million cubic meters of water have been stored for irrigation purposes. More than 90 percent of the republic's products are grown on irrigated land. During the current 5-year plan, the irrigated area has increased by almost 31,000 hectares. By the end of the year there will be a further increase of 8,000 hectares. This is possible thanks to such major projects as the Kirov reservoir, with a capacity of 500 million cubic meters. Work is continuing on irrigation of the Kulanak Valley in the Tyan Shan. Building of the Spartak Reservoir in the Chu Valley is nearing completion. Building of the (Alarchuk) Reservoir, to hold 170 million cubic meters, continues. The southern branch of the Great Chu Canal is being laid. Much work is being done in the cottongrowing zone. In Oshskaya Oblast, the enlarging of the (Panzhir) Reservoir is enabling more land to be brought into use for cultivation of grain crops, fruit and grasses. A new canal is enabling land to be brought into use in the (Burgandyuk) Steppe. Work has begun on the Papan Reservoir, which will improve the irrigation of 15,000 hectares and enable new land to be used. Preparations for irrigation work are particularly important this year as there is little moisture in the soil and the coming season is expected to be particularly dry. (0200 GMT)

In Azerbaijan, alfalfa has been sown on a third of the alloted area. Today the sowing of sugar and fodder beets began. (0500 GMT)

In the Chuvashskaya ASSR, all tilling and sowing equipment is ready for work. It has been decided to get at least 22 quintals per hectare of grain crops. (0700 GMT)

In Stavropolskiy Kray, no less than 24 quintals of grain crops per hectare are to be produced. The total yield is to be brought up to 4.6 million tons. (0907 GMT)

BREZHNEV GREETS TASHKENT LIVESTOCK WORKERS

LD031539 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Feb 80 p 1 LD

[Text of message from L.I. Brezhnev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary and USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium chairman, to the Tashkentskiy Obkom and Oblispolkom, published under the headline "In a Businesslike, Persistent Manner"]

[Text] To the Tashkentskiy Uzbekistan CP Obkom and the Tashkentskiy Oblispolkom

Dear comrades! It is with great satisfaction that I read the report of the successes achieved by and the further plans of the livestock farming workers of Tashkentskaya Oblast. It is gratifying to note that on the kolkhozes and sovkhozes in recent years, together with the achievements of cotton growing, public livestock farming is developing dynamically; the number of cattle is increasing, its productivity is being increased and the output of meat, milk and eggs is growing. Worthy of all support is the work that is being done under the leadership of the party organizations by the farmers to strengthen the fodder base and obtain high yields of wheat, corn, lucerne and other juicy fodders. All this indicates that the workers of the oblast are persistently implementing in a businesslike way the decisions of the July 1978 CPSU Central Committee Plenum. The results achieved by the people of Tashkent and the high socialist obligations undertaken for 1980 show what huge reserves exist for the development of livestock farming in the country's cotton growing regions. I wish the agricultural workers and all workers of the oblast new labor successes in fulfilling the tasks of the final year of the 5-year plan as a whole.

[signed] L. Brezhnev.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON 62D ANNIVERSARY OF ARMY, NAVY

Editorial: 'Powerful Combat Monolith'

LD040835 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 22 Feb 80 p 1 LD

[Editorial: "Guarding the Fatherland"]

[Excerpt] Soviet servicemen--full citizens of our developed socialist society--live by the same thoughts as their people. They are greeting their holiday closely united beneath the party's Leninist banner. The wise leadership of the party is the main source of all the victories and the steadily growing might of our armed forces. Under the leadership of the party headed by V.I. Lenin they utterly routed the combined hordes of internal counterrevolution and foreign intervention. The Leninist Party of Communists was the organizer and inspirer of the world-historic victory of the Soviet people and of its armed forces in the Great Patriotic War. Thanks to the concern and leadership of the party and its Central Committee, our country's army and navy are continuing to improve at the present time. They have reached qualitatively new heights in their development, are equipped with the most modern weapons and first-class combat equipment and have at their disposal everything necessary for the reliable defense of the socialist fatherland.

Soviet servicemen express the most profound gratitude and cordial acknowledgement to the party, the government and the people for their untiring concern for their armed defenders. They respond to this concern with irreproachable service, persistent training, and selfless martial labor. In the army and navy socialist competition has developed on a broad front, its scale and content determined by the unanimous striving of its participants to mark the 110th anniversary of V.I. Lenin's birth, the 35th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory in the Great Patriotic War and the completion of the 10th 5-Year Plan with new achievements in martial labor. Army and navy servicemen with their forces at full stretch are tackling the tasks facing them and persistently mastering modern arms and the methods and techniques for their effective use in combat.

The Soviet people can live and work peacefully. Our armed forces are always at a high degree of combat readiness and are capable of promptly dealing a shattering rebuff to any aggression, wherever it may originate. They constitute a powerful combat monolith whose unshakeable foundation was and remains the Marxist-Leninist teaching, the party's communist ideals, the ideological tempering and political maturity of the armed defenders of the socialist fatherland and their lofty moral and combat qualities. The present generation of Soviet servicemen maintains wholehearted loyalty to the revolutionary and combat traditions.

Emulation of the exploits and of the heroes of the battles for the freedom and independence of our socialist motherland forms the indestructible link between the generations of builders and defenders of the new society. Strengthening this link means increasing the glorious traditions of the army and navy, service in which provides remarkable schooling in labor and military training, moral purity and courage, patriotism and comradeship. Our party highly values the educative role of the Soviet Armed Forces. The utmost heightening of this role is stressed in the CPSU Central Committee resolution "On Further Improving Ideological and Political Education Work." Fulfillment of the demands of this program document will strengthen still more the spiritual potential of the Soviet Armed Forces, which are vigilantly standing guard over peace and socialism in a single combat formation with the armies of the Warsaw Pact countries.

The Soviet Armed Forces and the armies of the other fraternal countries of socialism are an indestructible barrier in the path of the aggressive aspirations of imperialist reaction and its accomplices, who are hatching plans for new military adventures. [paragraph continues]

Precisely through the fault of imperialist reaction and primarily of certain U.S. circles, the international situation was noticeably complicated at the turn of the decade. The course set by these circles aimed at cranking up the arms race and their open stake on force as the chief means of achieving world hegemony, which is reflected in unprecedented militarist plans and programs, are leading to an increase in the danger of war. However, our people remind those who have embarked on such a path and who are fanning the hostile anti-Soviet campaign: Gambling on force in relation to the Soviet Union is doomed, as on more than one occasion in the past, to inevitable failure.

The Soviet people are toiling in an inspired manner to implement the majestic plans of communist creation charted by the party and look to the future with confidence and optimism. They well know that everything created by them and belonging to them lies under the reliable protection of our armed forces. They have many times proved this on the battlefields of wars and military conflicts forced upon us. They are fulfilling with honor the task set them by the party--to be the guardian of the Soviet people's peaceful labor and the stronghold of universal peace.

Rodin: Afghanistan, 'International Mission'

LD040959 Ashkhabad TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA in Russian 23 Feb 80 p 3 LD

[Article by Lt Gen V.S. Rodin, member of the Military Council and chief of the Political Directorate of the Red Banner Turkestan Military District: "Guarding Socialist Achievements"]

[Excerpt] The USSR Armed Forces are 62 years old on 23 February. This is a great and joyous holiday for our people and their servicemen. Urban and rural workers will be honoring the armed defenders of the Soviet fatherland, the veterans of past engagements, the creators and builders of the awesome equipment and weapons--all who by their labor have strengthened and are strengthening the defense might of the Soviet state.

Closely rallied around the Communist Party and its Leninist Central Committee headed by outstanding politician and statesman of the day Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, our country's working people are filled with the determination to implement the party's policy and plans and to achieve new successes.

The Soviet Armed Forces occupy an honored place in the life of our country and in its remarkable history. Born of October and designed to safeguard the people's revolutionary achievements, they honorably and gloriously brought their combat banners through the flames of the fiercest clashes, through the grimmest trials of war. Their birth and formation, their entire heroic history is inseparably linked with the name of V.I. Lenin and with the activity of the Communist Party created by him.

After gaining the world-historic victory over the crack forces of international reaction the USSR Armed Forces not only upheld the independence and freedom of their motherland but also delivered the peoples of many countries of Europe and Asia from fascist enslavement and saved world civilization. Soviet servicemen liberated the territory of 10 European countries, northeast China and North Korea.

The victory over the German fascist invaders was won by the joint efforts of many peoples. However, our country played the decisive role in the rout of Hitler's Germany and military Japan and bore on its own shoulders the main brunt of the war.

The historical facts clearly refute the fabrications of bourgeois falsifiers. The whole world knows that the Soviet-German front was the main front of World War II. It was right here that the chief forces of the fascist coalition--607 enemy divisions, three-fourths of its aviation, a large proportion of its tanks and artillery, its manpower--were destroyed.

The victory in the Great Patriotic War was forced by all the nations and nationalities of our fatherland.

The economy, science and culture of Soviet Turkmenistan are developing dynamically within the country's unified national economic complex.

The countries of the socialist community--the most dynamic economic force in the world--have attained enormous successes in their development. No other association of states can compare with it in terms either of its economic growth rates or of the scale and significance of the social transformations. The socialist states' collective organs--CEMA and the Warsaw Pact--effectively serve the attainment of their common goals.

However, the positive changes taking place in the world are encountering the fierce resistance of imperialist reaction. Taking refuge in mendacious propaganda "about a Soviet military threat" U.S. President Carter and his administration have taken the path of undermining the relaxation of international tension and are acting in the spirit of the cold war. In an attempt to alter the correlation of forces in their favor they are increasing military expenditure, stepping up preparations for war, siting about 600 medium-range missiles on the territory of European countries, creating new bases and intensifying their presence in the Indian Ocean and in the Near and Middle East.

China's leadership pursuing a great-power, hegemonist policy hostile to the cause of peace and socialism, is acting as the direct accomplice of imperialism. Beijing is moving toward rapprochement on an anti-Soviet basis with the United States and Japan, and also with certain West European countries, and is strenously preparing for war. The reactionary forces of imperialism headed by the United States and China came out against the April revolution in Afghanistan and are endeavoring to repeat the tragedy of Chile and to create a real seat of war danger on the USSR's southern border.

In the Afghan revolution's difficult days the Soviet Government, at the request of Afghanistan's leadership and in accordance with the 5 December 1978 treaty, sent into the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA] a limited military contingent whose main task is to assist the DRA to repulse external aggression. "Of course," Comrade L.I. Brezhnev said in an interview with a PRAVDA correspondent, "there has not been nor is there any Soviet 'intervention' or 'aggression'. There is something else: We are assisting the new Afghanistan at the request of its government to defend the national independence, freedom and honor of the country against armed aggressive actions from outside." Afghanistan's laboring people feel great warmth for the Soviet soldiers, sergeants and officers, who are performing their noble international mission with a feeling of high responsibility.

Gorchakov: 'Bulwark of Peace'

LD041121 Frunze SOVETSKAYA KIRGIZIYA in Russian 23 Feb 80 p 3 LD

[Article by Lt Gen V. Gorchakov, first deputy commander of the Red Banner Central Asia Military District: "Always with the People"]

[Excerpt] Today is always, the USSR Armed Forces are the reliable guard of the Soviet people's peaceful labor, the bulwark of universal peace. The USSR Constitution points out that the strengthening of the army and navy is dictated by the need to defend the socialist achievements, the Soviet people's peaceful labor, our state's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Such is the noble goal of the USSR's foreign policy as enshrined in legislative form in the country's basic law. [paragraph continues]

But this in no way suits our enemies. The U.S. administration has recently undertaken the arbitrary and unilateral violation of previously agreed contracts, and the curtailment of scientific and cultural links displaying a lack of respect for international agreements. Such a policy imperils the relaxation of tension and peaceful cooperation.

But is not the cause of peace and detente undermined by the imperialist circles' attempts to cast doubt upon and to cancel previously signed agreements on military-political questions and to freeze arms reduction negotiations currently in progress? Undermine--and how! For even the U.S. Senate's examination of the Soviet-American SALT II treaty has been indefinitely deferred by decision of President J. Carter.

This decision, like other measures on the further escalation of militarism, Washington attempts to "substantiate" by absurd inventions about a military threat allegedly emanating from the USSR and, in particular, about its policy toward Iran and Afghanistan. Yet the present militarist actions of the American administration have not been formulated just today. Thus, the creation of the "quick-reaction corps" was approved by the White House in August 1977.

In this situation the Soviet Union, seeking to deepen the relaxation of international tension and to render it irreversible, combines in its policy the unswerving will for peace and the readiness to repulse any aggressor. The personnel of the Red Banner Central Asia Military District also experience the thoughts and aspirations of their own people as well as their joys and concern. The results of the first months of the winter combat instruction schedule attest that the servicemen's words are not at variance with their deeds. Most units and subunits are successfully resolving the tasks they have been set, are confidently fulfilling the socialist pledges adopted in honor of the 110th anniversary of V.I. Lenin's birth and the 35th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory in the Great Patriotic War and are persistently improving combat and political training.

Saltykov: Relaxing International Tension

LD041123 Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 23 Feb 80 p 3 LD

[GRUZINFORM report on article by Lt Gen V.V. Saltykov, first deputy commander of the Red Banner Transcaucasus Military District: "The Motherland's Reliable Guard"]

[Excerpts] The Red Army developed and strengthened along with the entire country. Its radical reorganization and technical reequipment were accomplished. The standard of the personnel's general educational, combat and political training rose quickly.

It was during this period--or, more precisely, 6 June 1935--that the Transcaucasus Military District was formed on the basis of the Caucasus Red Banner Army. Its troops resolved important tasks regarding combat improvement.

The foundation of our future victories was laid in those prewar years. And when the war unleashed by Hitler's Germany broke out, the whole world became convinced of the strength of this foundation.

And again, as during the Civil War, the Soviet people's struggle for the motherland's freedom and independence was headed by the tested party of communists. It brought the party and the people together. Under the party's slogan "Everything for the Front, Everything for Victory!" the country was transformed into a single mighty combat camp. The State Defense Committee, of which I.V. Stalin was appointed chairman, was set up to mobilize all efforts to repel and defeat the enemy.

Relying on the economic might of the country, on the support of the entire people, the Soviet Armed Forces heroically engaged the odious enemy.

The Soviet Armed Forces mount a watchful guard of the achievements of peace and socialism in monolithic formation with the armies of the Warsaw Pact states. The economic and military might of the socialist community countries represents a chilling experience for the hotheads from the imperialist countries.

The CPSU and the Soviet Government are implementing a peace-loving foreign policy aimed at the relaxation of international tension. However, this goes against the grain for certain circles of the imperialist states. Taking refuge in thoroughly mendacious inventions about a "Soviet military threat," reactionary forces of the United States and the other NATO countries are endeavoring to implement dangerous plans to site new American medium-range missiles in West Europe. Imperialism's militarist circles and other forces are opposing detente and disarmament, are seeking to suppress the peoples' national liberation movement and are interfering in other countries' internal affairs. Clear evidence of this is furnished by the unbridled anti-Soviet campaign in connection with our country's rendering of assistance, including military assistance, to the friendly people of Afghanistan.

The U.S. imperialists and the Chinese militarists need this racket so that, utilizing it as a smokescreen, they may mass substantial military forces near the Soviet Union's southern borders.

In strengthening the country's defense the Communist Party is unswervingly guided by V.I. Lenin's teaching on the defense of the socialist fatherland. The fundamental ideas of this teaching have been deeply reflected and creatively developed in the CPSU program, in the decisions of party congresses and CPSU Central Committee plenums and in the Soviet Constitution.

A worthy contribution to further strengthening the country's defense capability is being made by the Transcaucasus servicemen. They are greeting the nationwide holiday with new achievements in combat and political training and in fulfilling the socialist pledges adopted in honor of the 110th anniversary of V.I. Lenin's birth.

Maksimov: 'Noble International Mission'

LD041401 Tashkent PRAVDA NOSTOKA in Russian 21 Feb 80 p 3 LD

[Article by Col Gen Yu.P. Maksimov, commander of the Red Banner Turkestan Military District: "Mighty Guard of Socialist Achievements"]

[Excerpts] Proceeding along the path signposted by Lenin, the Soviet people successfully accomplished under the Communist Party's leadership the country's socialist industrialization, the collectivzation of agriculture and the cultural revolution, and gave the whole world a model of the just resolution of the national question.

"Unfortunately," Marshal of the Soviet Union D.F. Ustinov, USSR minister of defense, has remarked, "history gave us very little peacetime. We did not manage to do everything that we intended doing to strengthen the country's defense. But in those prewar years the foundation was laid for our future victories. And when war broke out the whole world was convinced of the strength of that foundation."

Guided by Lenin's ideas on the defense of the socialist fatherland the Communist Party and the Soviet Government formulated a concrete program of struggle against the enemy, accurately determined the political goals of the war and the ways of achieving them and mobilized all the country's forces to rout the aggressors. The might of the blows of the Soviet Army and Navy grew from engagement to engagement. They carried out dozens of major strategic operations.

The battle of Moscow, the defense of Leningrad, Odessa and Sevastopol, the heroic Stalingrad epic, the battle for the Caucasus, the encounter on the Kursk bulge, the Korsun-Shevchenko and Belorussian operations, the assault on Berlin and many others will go down in the history of wars forever as graphic models of military art.

After gaining the world-historic victory over the crack forces of international reaction the Soviet Armed Forces not only upheld the independence and freedom of their own motherland but also delivered the peoples of many other countries of Europe and Asia from fascist enslavement and saved world civilization. Soviet soldiers liberated the territory of 10 European countries, northeast China and North Korea. Our army sacredly fulfilled its international duty.

To the Soviet Union and the fraternal countries of socialism belongs the decisive merit of breaking the tragic cycle: world war--brief peaceful respite--world war again. Soviet people, our friends and all progressive mankind are proud of this historic result. However, the positive changes occurring in the world are encountering fierce resistance from imperialist reaction. Taking refuge in false theses about a "Soviet military threat" President Carter and his administration have taken the path of undermining the relaxation of international tension and are operating in the spirit of the cold war. They are endeavoring to change the correlation of forces in their favor. To this end the United States is increasing military expenditure, stepping up preparations for war, planning the deployment of 600 medium-range missiles on the territory of European countries, creating new bases and intensifying its presence in the Indian Ocean and in the Near and Middle East.

China's leadership, which is pursuing a great-power, hegemonist policy hostile to the cause of peace and socialism, is acting as imperialism's direct accomplice. Peking is moving toward rapprochement on an anti-Soviet basis with the United States and Japan and also with certain West European countries and is strenuously preparing for war.

Imperialism's reactionary forces headed by the United States and China came out against the April revolution in Afghanistan and are trying to create a real seat of war danger on the USSR's southern border. At a difficult time for the Afghan Revolution the Soviet Government, at the request of Afghanistan's leadership and in accordance with the 5 December 1978 treaty, sent into the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA] a limited troop contingent whose task is to assist the DRA repulse the aggression of the internal and external reaction.

"Of course," L.I. Brezhnev said in an interview with a PRAVDA correspondent, "there has not been nor is there any Soviet 'intervention' or 'aggression'. There is something else: We are assisting the new Afghanistan, at the request of its government, to defend the national independence, freedom and honor of the country against armed aggression from outside."

The presence of our troops will permit the stabilization of the situation in Afghanistan, will allow the democratic forces to consolidate themselves and the gains of the revolution to be secured and will permit the cooling of the ardor of those who instigate military adventures. The laboring people of Afghanistan feel great warmth for the Soviet soldiers, sergeants and officers, who are fulfilling their noble international mission with a feeling of high responsibility.

The troops of the Red Banner Turkestan Military District occupy a worthy place in the combat formation of the glorious USSR Armed Forces. As they guard the southern borders of our motherland they are improving combat training and enhancing political vigilance, and are seeking high results in the socialist competition which is in progress within the armed forces under the slogan "sacredly fulfill Lenin's behests, improve combat and political training, enhance vigilance and be ever ready for the defense of the motherland and of socialism's great achievements."

Yepishev: 'Just Wars'

LD041741 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 22 Feb 80 p 2 LD

[Article by Army General A. Yepishev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate: "Loyalty to Lenin's Banner"]

[Text] Tomorrow is the 62d anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy. Celebrations in honor of this festival of all the people are taking place in cities and villages, in army garrisons and at naval bases in the atmosphere of the immense patriotic enthusiasm on the part of Soviet people generated by preparations for the elections to the union and autonomous republic supreme soviets and to local soviets of people's deputies. Workers, kolkhoz members, the intelligentsia and army and navy servicemen are greeting the elections closely united around Lenin's party, proud of the fact that a developed socialist society has been built in our country, that the USSR acts as a powerful stronghold of peace and the security of the peoples.

Soviet Army and Navy Day is being celebrated now on the eve of the 110th anniversary of V.I. Lenin's birth. The creation and formation of our armed forces, their legendary past and present combat might are linked with the name of the leader of our party. The CPSU Central Committee resolution "On the 110th Anniversary of Vladimir Ilich Lenin's Birth" says: "Lenin's ideas on the defense of the socialist fatherland are of important significance."

From the vantage point reached whereby the bright edifice of communism is being erected on our land and the community of socialist states is strengthening, there appears before us with particular vividness the great vital force of Lenin's ideas on defending the revolutionary gains of the working people. The years which divide us from those February days of 1917 when the world first heard of the Red Army have convincingly confirmed the profound validity of the conclusion drawn by V.I. Lenin: "Every revolution is worthless unless it knows how to defend itself..." (Complete Collected Works, Volume 37, page 122).

Our people and their servicemen convincingly demonstrated their loyalty to Lenin's ideas on defending the revolutionary gains of October at the time of the foreign military intervention and the Civil War. The yound Red Army created by V.I. Lenin and the Communist Party utterly routed the combined forces of international and internal counterrevolution. Its combat actions unfolded on vast expanses and were distinguished by high activity, boldness and resolution. The combat valor of the servicemen who defended the republic of soviets in fierce fighting with its enemies still arouses universal admiration. In these festive days Soviet people and our foreign friends pay the deepest tribute of respect to the soldiers of the revolution and to the heroes of the Civil War.

Under Lenin's banner the Soviet Armed Forces gained a worldwide-historic victory in the Great Patriotic War. The war imposed on us by German fascism was the biggest armed action of the crack forces of world imperialism against socialism, one of the most arduous trials ever endured by our motherland. It decided the question: to be or not to be the world's first socialist state; it decided the future of world civilization, progress and democracy. The Soviet Armed Forces bore a huge historic responsibility in their struggle against the military machine of Hitler's Germany and its satellites, in the struggle which ended in a crushing defeat for the aggressor.

The Soviet people are the chief creator of this world-historic victory, and Lenin's party of communists is the brilliant inspirer and organizer. Its political and military leadership here characterized by decisiveness in formulating the goals of the armed struggle, by skillful choice of the salients of the main strikes and by the effective utilization of reserves.

Along the entire vast Soviet-German front--the decisive front of World War II--there unfolded engagements the like of which was unknown in history both in terms of their scope and intensity. Soviet servicemen displayed unparalleled bravery and the greatest courage. Our army and navy, after grinding the enemy's divisions in defensive battles, switched to decisive actions, developing a mighty offensive. The Soviet troops inflicted blows of increasing strength on the aggressor and threw the invaders back beyond the borders of our own land. They played the decisive role in the rout of the grimmest offspring of international reaction--German fascism and Japanese militarism--and worthily carried out their international liberation mission.

The ceremonies in honor of the Soviet Army and Navy are rendering homage to all those who courageously engaged the enemy and defended their socialist motherland, who hoisted the victory banner above the overthrown capital of the fascist state. The moral and political qualities of the Soviet person inculcated by the party--devotion to the ideals of communism, patriotism, internationalism--graphically revealed themselves in the fighting against the enemy. Soviet servicemen--from private to marshal--demonstrated their boundless loyalty to the motherland. The banner of our victory, Comrade L.I. Brezhnev has said, this immortal banner of October, the great banner of Lenin, the invincible banner of socialism, is the bright symbol of hope, the symbol of the happiness and freedom of all peoples.

Lenin's banner casts its shadow over our troop formation today too. V.I. Lenin's ideas arm military cadres with an understanding of the complexity of the contemporary situation in the world, of the tasks and ways of improving the combat might of army and navy, and they inspire Soviet servicemen to selfless service of their people and to martial labor in behalf of the strengthening of their motherland's might and security.

The CPSU has followed and is following strictly this Leninist behest: Always be alert to the intrigues of imperialism and constantly maintain the motherland's defense capability at its peak. Over the years since the Great Patriotic War the USSR Armed Forces, together with the entire country, have changed beyond recognition. Thanks to the Soviet people's selfless labor our army and navy are now equipped with modern combat equipment and weapons. They possess everything for the solid protection of Soviet people's peaceful labor against any encroachments from outside and to enable them to deliver a crushing rebuff to any aggressor from wherever he may appear.

In displaying concern for the reliable defense of socialism's achievements and the people's labor our party invariably pursues a Leninist peace-loving foreign policy course. No matter how much the bourgeois propagandists shout about a "Soviet military threat," they will not succeed in overturning the obvious fact that Soviet military doctrine is of a defensive nature. All the wars our state and its armed forces have been constrained to wage have been just wars.

The Soviet Army and Navy are being improved in the name of the most just cause--that of the security of the constructive labor of the builders of communism. The Soviet Union is forced to maintain its defense at the proper level, for imperialist reaction and militarist circles are confronting us with an unrestrained arms race.

Voices are constantly to be heard in the West saying that the leading power in NATO, the United States, must be stronger than anyone else in the world, and that as a whole NATO must build up its armament and thereby exert constant pressure on the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries. Such statements as these, which have become more frequent recently, evolve into the concrete militarist plans and programs and the military-strategic doctrines of the imperialist powers. At the end of last year the U.S. President announced a new 5-year arms buildup program, while the NATO session--under the pressure of that same United States--adopted the decision on deploying medium-range missiles in certain West European countries. [paragraph continues]

The cold war spirit permeated the U.S. President's recent "State of the Union" message to Congress, which openly annouces U.S. claims to "the leading role in the world."

People in Washington endeavor to "substantiate" the bellicose course with absurd inventions about the USSR and, in particular, about Soviet policy toward Afghanistan. But the true reasons for this hypocritical and mendacious anti-Soviet campaign unleashed by imperialist reaction are clear to every sober-minded person. The class enemy is in a rage because of the failure of its plans to deprive a country friendly with us--the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan--of its independence and transform it into its own bridgehead on the Soviet Union's southern border.

The entire course of social development shows that in our time imperialism will not be permitted to foster any tyranny in the international arena as the mood takes it. Such times have passed. There now exist in the world forces capable of dealing an effective rebuff to those who claim the role of gendarme in international affairs.

The deterioration in the international situation brought about by American imperialism and its NATO allies, and also by the Chinese hegemonists, cannot change the policy of peace and friendship among the peoples being pursued by the Soviet Union. Our Leninist foreign policy course, Comrade L.I. Brezhnev emphasizes, is unshakable. This course combines a consistent 110th anniversary of V.I. Lenin's birth in worthy fashion. The army and navy have mounted extensive socialist competition under the slogan "sacredly fulfil Lenin's behests, improve combat and political training, enhance vigilance, be ever ready to defend the motherland and the great achievements of socialism."

The more complex the tasks being resolved by the armed forces, the greater must be the effectiveness of party political work. The further enhancement of combat readiness in the army and navy and the improvement of field, aerial and marine training are only possible on the basis of the servicemen's increased political consciousness.

The high communist ideological fiber of Soviet people--patriots and internationalists--has always been and remains our enormous advantage. The profound study and persistent implementation of Lenin's ideological and theoretical legacy, of the decisions of the 25th party congress and of the plenums of its Central Committee, and of the works and instructions of Comrade L.I. Brezhnev on defense questions will serve to augment the spiritual forces of the army and navy.

The growing ideological tempering and the sociopolitical and businesslike activity of servicemen are the guarantee of the further enhancement of vigilance and combat readiness and of the excellent assimilation of weapons and equipment. Among the troops and in the fleets there exist considerable reserves for elevating to a new level the quality and effectiveness of the personnel's training and education.

In light of the demands of Lenin's party much is to be done to further boost the armed forces' educative role. It is a question of insuring that ideological and organizational activity, the training, life and daily existence of a unit's personnel and the unity of the commander's exactingness and concern for people favorably influence the further enhancement of ideological fiber and morale, discipline and smartness. Commanders, political organs and party organizations are urged to approach in a comprehensive manner the entire business of training and education.

The exemplariness and vanguard role of the communists is a splendid Leninist tradition of our army and navy life. With the party's word and via their personal example they insure the enhanced quality of combat and political training, the fulfillment of socialist pledges and the strengthening of discipline and organization. The holiday gives us an occasion yet again to analyze comprehensively and from the party's viewpoint what has been achieved since the start of the new training year, to look self-critically at our own activity, to evaluate it from the positions of the high requirements levied by the CPSU Central Committee November (1979) Plenum and to focus attention on shortcomings. Such an approach meets the high calling of our army and the tasks which it is resolving.

Our armed forces have stood vigilant and steadfast guard of the achievements of Great October for some 62 years. Soviet servicemen are infinitely devoted to their motherland, party and Lenin's ideas on the defense of the socialist fatherland. They will again be demonstrating this unfailing loyalty of theirs at the upcoming elections to the supreme soviets of the union and autonomous republics and to the local soviets of people's deputies via their unanimous vote for the candidates of the unbreakable block of communists and nonparty people.

Created by V.I. Lenin and by the party, the Soviet Armed Forces are the beloved offspring of their people. In selfless service of the people and in the Leninist party's wise leadership lies the main source of their strength and invincibility.